

Is there anyone Play Formula 1 out there? Dream Team

The universal question, part four



Celebrity

wars

Hello! and OK! go head to head

# The plan is destructively simple: make it impossible for them to live together'



The fourth suicide bomb in nine days, killing up to 20 people in the heart of Tel Aviv, has torpedoed the hopes of peace between Israelis and Palestinians. It has mortally wounded the vernment of Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister and architect of the Oslo accords, which laid the basis for Palesinian self-determination.

Israelis feel that an agreenent which was meant to bring them peace has brought them only war, and it is an understandable feeling. The suicide bomb is a peculiarly effective weapon of pure terror. There is no obvious way of stopping them: they strike while people are catching a bus, crossing the road, or, as yesterday, shopping on the corner of Dizengoff Street and King George Street in central Tel Aviv. It is a lighly effective weapon.

The reaction of ordinary israelis is to strike back blindly, almost regardless of the target The government has now told fasser Arafat that either he crushes Hamas, the moveme from which the bombers or they will do it for him. It is a threat with dire conseinvading Gaza or the other in sacrifices, has lost whatever newly autonomous Palestinian

Mr Arafat made it clear last night that he will go some way to meeting Israel's demands. Hehas already begun to round up Hamas leaders and activists. Israeli opinion demands that he go further, and that everybody associated with Hamas should be behind bars. But this is unlikely to resolve anything in the long term. The suicide bombers so far identified came from Hehron, south of Jerusalem, which is not under Mr Arafat's

Military action by Israel will not end the suicide bombs. If anything it means that there will be more of them. But the idea, which Mr Peres originally tried



raising. This is understood to include sup-

porters of Hamas, the group which

claimed responsibility for the two sui-

cide bombs in Israel in the past two days.

Shallah, the new head of Islamic Jihad,

a Damascus branch of Hamas, spent

three years doing a PhD in economics

at Durham University. He left in 1990.

yesterday that he is writing to Mr

Greville Janner, the Labour MP, said

Last year it emerged that Ramadan

appeal it had. After the bomb in Jerusalem on Sunday the crowds shouted: "No more

victims of neace. It has all happened with extraordinary speed. Only ten days ago Mr Peres seemed to be on the verge of a landslide victory at the polls. Almost 60 per cent of Israelis said they approved of the Oslo accords. There had been no bomb attacks for seven months. The right-wing West Bank settlers had been discredited by last summer's violence which culminated in the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, the prime min-

ister, last November. It was, we can see with hindsight, a honeymoon period, a moment of calm in the shadow

year Israelis and foreigners alike had forgotten the fanaticism of the Jewish religious nationalists determined to hold on to the God-given territory of the

JASON BENNETTO

Crime Correspondent

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary.

was yesterday urged to investigate

whether members of the terrorist group

responsible for the latest bombing in

Israel is using Britain as a base to

organise its activities and raise funds.

rity service have long been aware of groups of Islamic West Bank Palestini-

Anti-terrorist officers and the secu-

sell, that peace, like war, has of the murder of Mr Rabin. Last only when Yigal Amir fired three bullets into the back of Mr Rabin.

as Israel smoothly withdrew from the West Bank towns, to West Bank. They remembered forget that Islamic religious Some retaliation had been ex-

This year it was easy enough.

away. The assassination of Yahyah Ayyash, the master bomb-maker of Hamas, started the present round of tit-for-tat killings.

pected was that vengeance would be so devastating, sudden, deadly. It is difficult to accept that Ayyash alone was the motive. Twice the bombers said

whether supporters of terrorists are ation with foreign intelligence services.

be seeking assurances that Mr Howard raise funds or plan operations.

ans based in London who carry out fund- Howard asking him to investigate was satisfied with the levels of co-oper-

abusing immigration laws to gain

entry to Britain to use it as a base to or-

British-Israeli Parliamentary Group,

said: "The latest outrage has simply

heightened the concern that has been

felt by a lot of MPs on both sides of the

House for years." He said he would also

Mr Janner, vice-chairman of the

ganise their activities abroad.

by another bomb. The plan is destructively simple: to make it impossible for Israelis and Palestinians to live together. It is a chilling logic. Whatever

Howard urged to investigate terror link

A Foreign Office spokesman played

down reports of a Hamas cell in Britain.

allegations that funds raised by Hamas

in the UK are used directly in support

The Home Office said the Govern-

ment was determined the UK should not

be used as a base for any terrorists to

of terrorist acts elsewhere," he said.

'We have seen no proof to support

to close Hamas down. In return it is reasonable for Mr Arafat to get the powers of a proper state. One of the reasons why the military wing of Hamas has been able to operate is that the West bank has two authorities, one Israeli and one Palestinian. This dual power was always unsatisfactory. It was always going to produce friction and, in places like Hebron, a vacuum of authority.

Israel to demand that the group

be wiped out in Gaza. Mr

Arafat cannot continue

manocuvres to split Hamas.

Even if the cells carrying out the

bombings are based in Hebron and Jerusalem, both controlled

by Israel, it is Mr Arafat who has

Further reports, page 9 Peace blown apart? page 15

# Countdown begins to satellite crash

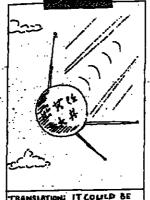
CHARLES ARTHUR Science Correspondent

If your have not taken out insurance on your house, it might be a good idea to do so. A onetonne Chinese satellite is plummeting out of control towards Earth and there is a 1 in 300 chance it will land in Britam.

According to European Space Agency calculations, the satclifie - called FSW-1 - will crash into the Earth at 4am next Tuesday, af a speed of about 450mph. "If you were there when it entered the atmosphere, you would probably first hear a sonic boom [as it slowed]

sound], followed by a loud crash on impact," said Richard Crowther of the Defence Research Agency in Farnborough, which is monitoring the satellite's progress.

The satellite is in an elliptical orbit which takes it around Earth every 90 minutes, between 36 degrees north and 56 degrees south of the Equator. At present, it spends a total of about five minutes each day over the UK. Its altitude varies between 85 and 270 miles, and as it skims the atmosphere on each circuit it slows down, like a spinning stone skipping over water. Eventually it will be



TRANSLATION; IT COULD BE YOU!

It is impossible to predict where the satellite will land until its final orbit, and even then only with about 30 minutes' warning. The Home Office has urged local authorities to prepare "emergency measures". Universal Question, Section Two

# Tyre defects 'covered up'

The tyre manufacturer Dunlop was criticised yesterday by a High Court judge for covering up 300 incidents involving a faulty brand of tyre, which caused at least one fatal motorway smash.

The firm, which last week agreed to pay £597,000 in compensation to a family injured in the crash, withheld information about the defect from Department of Transport officials investigating two other fatal crashes.

Judge Kenneth Wilson-Mellor, QC said firms should "take reasonable care" to protect public safety if faults are

He said Dunlop should have issued safety warnings and notified the DoT about a fault in its SP4 tyre, which led to a fatal crash on the M4 motorway near Swindon, in July 1988.

Lolita Barclay, 12, died and four others were injured when a Ford Cortina ploughed into an Austin Princess containing a family on the first day of their summer holiday. Susan Carroll was left blind, disfigured and mentally impaired by the crash. Her husband, Alan, suffered

a punctured lung and their children Catherine, then 14, and Stephen, then nine, were seriously hurt. Last Friday the family from Grove, near Wantage. Oxon, was awarded £597,000, after suing Dunlop.

caused when the tyre's rubber tread stripped away from its steel bonding. Dunlop admitted knowing of the defect in 1981 but claimed the blow out was caused by the tyre being driven too fast whilst worn and underinflated. Judge Wilson-Mellor ruled Dunlop was 80-per-cent liable for the accident.

During the hearing it was revealed that the puncture was

The judge said Dunlop, which sold its tyre manufacturing division to a Japanese firm. SP Tyres, in 1985, never fully investigated the problem.

During the five-week court case the judge heard evidence from Dunlop's claims' assessor, David Paine, that there had been claims of more than 300 stripping from the SP4 tyre between 1985 and 1989. These, the judge said yesterday, were covered up. Management had advised Mr Paine to withhold

information from the DoT. The judge said: "The De-partment of Transport wrote to Dunlop asking for reports on these cases, and for a report of other cases of tread-stripping occurring to Dunlop tyres.

"These letters referred to Mr Paine who answered the first by repeating his view that the relevant tyre had failed for reasons unconnected with any defect . . . His management required him, in effect, to cover up information included in his schedule of claims."

### IN BRIER

Blow for Murdoch A Tory revolt has forced a

change of policy to stop Rupert Murdoch's television corporation buving up the "crown jewels" of British sport. Page 3

Building hope

Cowboy builders could be doomed if recommendations including a compulsory warranty and specialist court arbitration are adopted.Page 4

Today's weather Cloudy and cool with showers in the south. Sunny spells in



down below the speed of moving too slowly to stay aloft. SECTION THE STRESS 16-28 COMMENT 14:15 CROSSWORD 24 GAZETTE 12 LEADING ARTICLES 14

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# Euro row hits Clarke's upbeat appeal

Chief Political Correspondent

Conservative Euro-sceptics single currency in a row which threatened to overshadow his promises of economic recovery.

John Major will return from growing pressure from his Cubinet colleagues to settle the rift single currency next week when absolutely inevitable. I think course by the clash with his own

Kenneth Clarke vesterday infuriated the Euro-sceptics by were in open revolt against the strengthening his opposition to Chancellor last night over the a referendum. Some Cabinet ministers, who are due to dis-cuss the White Paper on Thursday, said Mr Major should overrule the Chancellor, in the Far East tomorrow under spite of the risk of it forcing his resignation.
I can't see why Major does

by backing a referendum on a not agree to a referendum. It is

there will be a referendum," one Cabinet source said.

John Redwood, the former Cabinet minister, writing in The Independent today makes it clear that the single currency is the biggest issue facing the Government. Mr Clarke said a referendum would be considered when Britain considers joining a single currency.

Mr Clarke was blown off

a European White Paper is something will be said alongside backbenchers, in a Commons to boom and bust". Britain were furious at an interview in published. the White Paper to make it clear debate in which he had planned faced the "the most attractive which he warned that Britain to boost Tory morale with the prospects for a consumer-led boom, fuelled by some of the £20bn from maturing Tessa tax-

free savings plans. Appealing to Tory voters with an economic assessment so good", Mr Clarke said "Middle England" would see real improvements in its standard of living, with greater prosperity and more jobs "without a return

economic prospects for a generation", the Chancellor said.

There are great bargains for first-time buyers ... The spring of 1996 could be a good time for the housing market," he said. His remarks, three days before his meeting with the Governor of the Bank of England, were seen as a clear signal of a fur-ther cut in interest rates.

But his optimism failed to quell Euro-sceptic MPs who

which he warned that Britain could expect to pay higher interest rates than Germany and France without a single currency. He was attacked as "crackers" by Teresa Gorman. one of the former whipless Tory MPs. Bill Cash, a leading Euro-sceptic, angrily told Mr Clarke millions of voters were

opposed to a single currency. Senior Conservative sources said Michael Portillo, the rightwing champion in the Cabinet,

referendum because he feared he would have to resign from the Cabinet in order to fight for a "no" vote.

The Tory centre-left Macleod Group will back the Chancellor tomorrow in a policy paper - ex-clusively forecast in The Independent - calling on the Government to keep open the

option of a single currency.
Inside Parliament, page 8
Leading article, page 14
John Redwood, page 15

#### IN BRIE

Cash payout f sex abuse but Four families whose were taken from their l dawn by social worker

a bungled sex abuse it tion in 1991 yesterday ed undisclosed damas cres and a formal from Orkney Island Co

Ti... children spent for in care but a sheriff thin the prosecution of the parents, describing it as fatally flawed, and a judicial inquiry by Lord Clyde condemned the social workers involved for acting hastily, without enough thought.

#### Car thieves hunt

Police in Liverpool are searching for joyriders who stole a £27,000 Vanshall Senator from behind the city's Philharmonic Hall and abandoned it some hours later in Toxteth, undamaged but minus its mobile phone. The car belongs to Mr Paul Acres. Assistant Chief Constable of Merseyside.

#### Rock on, Tommy

Tommy, the stage version of the rock musical written by Pete Townshend of The Who, has taken more than firm in ticket sales before its opening today at the Shaftesomy Theatre in London. The show stars Kim Wilde and unknown Paul Keating, 19, as the Gonymous deaf and dumb pinball wizard.

#### New cancer drug

The first new anti-cancer drug in 35 years will be available next week. Tomudex is described by the Cancer Research Campaign as a substantial advance in the treatment of bowel cancer, the second most common after lung cancer in men and breast cancer in women and the cause of 20,000 deaths a year.

#### Cyprus verdicts

Trial verdicts on three British soldiers accused of kidnapping and killing a Danish tour guide on Cyprus will be delivered by judges in Larnaca on March 28. The battered and semi-naked body of Louise Jeasen, 23, was found in a shallow grave on the Mediterranean island in September, 1994, \_.

#### Scheme extended

The Government scheme to help people sleeping rough in central London is to be extended. The Rough Sleepers Initiative, which helps the homeless find accommodation. will first be introduced in Bristol. followed by consideration of 23 other areas in England which say they have a problem.

#### **RUC** killer iailed

An RUC constable who murdered his wife and two children was jailed for life. A Belfast jury convicted John Torney, 40, of son John, 13, and 10-year-old daughter Emma with his policeissue revolver at their home in tember 1994.

#### Safe at the double

Two climbers were found safe after sparking a major rescue operation in the Cairngorm mountains for the second time in 48 hours. One was airlifted to hospital, the other required no treatment. The two men, who have not been named, were also rescued on Saturday.

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# Major calms fears over HK handover

DONALD MACINTYRE and STEPHEN VINES Hong Kong

John Major yesterday took steps to quell widespread anxicty in Hong Kong with a stronger than expected series of measures and pledges designed ter 1997. Mr Major said that to build confidence in the next summer the "eyes of the colony in the run up to its handover to China in 1997.

As expected, the centrepiece of a package broadly welcomed by local politicians was the Prime Minister's announcement that around 2 million Hong Kong Chinese without UK travel documents will be able to visit Britain without visas.

But Mr Major went further by giving what he insisted was a firm guarantee that 7,000 mainly Indian and Pakistani potentially stateless ethnic minority residents would be able to come to Britain to live if the Chinese fulfilled their worst fears by putting them under pressure to leave the territory. And in a modest but powerfully symbolic move he promised to clear a legislative path to grant British citizenship to 27 wives and widows of Hong Kong soldiers who fought in the British Army in the Second

In a strenuous, and appar-

Riskind, was in Hong Kong

delivering the blunt message

that the people of the colony

should not expect too much

from the outgoing sovereign

power, whose hands were large-

ly tied, in the remaining year

The message was not well re-

flecting new realities. Yesterday,

however, the Prime Minister

delivered a seemingly entirely

different message. His main theme, stated not once but sev-

eral times, was, as he put it, that

"Hong Kong will never have to

He said Britain would be

'vigilant" in making sure that

agreements made with China

over the transfer of sovereign-

ty were kept and stressed the

high level of business, trading

After so many disappoint-

ments about British policy

Hong Kong people are naturally

sceptical about the motives of

the Government in London.

Martin Lee, the leader of the

Democratic Party, the colony's

largest party, was so confident

that Mr Rifkind would do noth-

grant visa-access to Britain for

holders of Hong Kong's new

Special Administrative Region

passports that he bet him £50

that the pledge would not be ful-

ing about a vague promise to

and other connections.

and a half of colonial rule.

responsibilities" for Hong Kong after the handover, the Prime Minister also promised to "pursue every legal or other avenue" to enforce the 1984 Sino British Joint Declaration - including its provision for a democratic voice for the people of Hong Kong af-ter 1997. Mr Major said that world" would be on Hong Kong as it reverted to China and declared: "Hong Kong will never

have to walk alone. The promise by Mr Major who went further than before in firmly identifying the declaration as a legally enforceable through the UN if China abolishes the elected Legislative Committee - as it says it is determined to do - without an ad-

equate replacement. However, the measures fall far short of the demands of many in the colony for full rights of UK residence for the 3 million holders of restricted British National Overseas pass-

Martin Lee, the leader of Hong Kong's largest political party, the Democrats, said he was "obviously happy" about the decision on visas. James Tien, from the business-oriented Libently effective, effort to reassure eral Party, said he hoped the the colony's population that move would be followed by

Pledges of support

seen as empty words

Just over a month ago, the Foreign Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, was in Hong Kong

filled. Yesterday, Mr Lee gave

Mr Major a cheque to pass on

to Mr Rifkind and wondered

aloud whether he had finally hit

on a way to make Britain hon-

things British. On Sunday night,

a dinner in Mr Major's honour

was notable for the number of

which, in past years would have

been filled by business leaders

and other prominent personal-

ities who never turned down an

invitation to Government

Mr Major told his audience

that businessmen with access to

Chinese officials had a "special

responsibility" in the run-up to the handover. "If you don't ap-

pear to care about the survival

of Hong Kong's system - its rule

of law, clean government and a

free society - then others may

draw the conclusion that they don't really matter." The busi-

nessmen showed no sign of re-

sponding, however. They sense

the presence of a dying regime

and see no need to revive it. But what of the bulk of the

population who have no foreign

passport in their back pocket

and no access to the leaders of

the new regime? What will they

scats occupied by civil servants to a government they did not

Others are not gambling,

our vaguely made pledges.

ceived but was accepted as re- they are simply shunning all

Mr Major was given an enthusiastic reception during a walkabout at the Sha Tin shopping centre by several thousand ordinary Hong Kong residents
- some shouting in Cantonese "thank you for the visas" - as he went on a handshaking tour of the crowd with the territory's governor Chris Patten.

In a speech to a businessmen's lunch in which Mr Ma-jor was passionate about the Hong Kong's dynamic ability to defy the predictions "of doomsters and gloomsters", the Prime Minister promised that British ministers would contintreaty - raises the prospect of an action before the Interna-tional Court of Justice or its declared intention to dismantle the legislative committee and the territory's Bill of

British officials say they do not expect more than about 13,000 people a year to take advantage of visa-free access, which confers no rights of residence. There is little or no evidence of Hong Kong citizens using visitors' rights as a back-door route to illegal immigration, but there was angry reaction from some backbench Tory MPs, who fear that many may now do so.

Home Office sources insisted. that if there was any evidence the would be withdrawn "at 24

up thegeneral mood of cynicism.

"He's just trying to look good by offering us visas for Britain.

It's no big deal and costs him

nothing."

The only member of the

public permitted to ask Mr

Major a question during his vis-

it, rose at the businessman's

lunch to ask the Prime Minis-

ter whether he could "sleep

comfortably at night" after

handing over 6 million people

This question produced Mr Major's only flash of anger dur-

ing the day, causing him to con-

fuse the lease which Britain

# Adams tries to seize PR initiative as talks start

DAVID MCKITTRICK, freland correspondent

Political talks at Stormont in Northern Ireland got off to an unpromising start yesterday when some of the invited people stayed away and some uninvited people turned up, to be

The publicity initiative was seized by the Sinn Fein president, Gerry Adams, who apdelegation, only to be unceregates. He was told quietly but firmly by a government official that Sinn Fein was not to be allowed in. Inside the talks building the Northern Ireland

ister, Dick Spring, were joined by the SDLP and Alliance parties, together with one of the fringe loyalist groupings, the Ulster Democratic Party.

The talks were boycotted by the Ulster Unionist Party, the Democratic Unionists and another loyalist fringe party, the Progressive Unionists. The UUP leader, David Trimble, and DUP leader, the Rev Ian Paisley, are instead to meet Sir Patrick in London tomorrow. presence of an Irish minister.

difficult first day commenting:
"This is the first of 10 days of Both the British and

of experience, I think it was an entirely predictable start, but we have had inauspicious starts before and we have come through to some quite good

things."
Mr Spring added: "I believe all the parties should start talk-

ing to one another."

The talks, which are due to end on 13 March, centre on the question of what type of elecvance. They are also intended moniously turned away at the Mr Paisley said he would not en- to consider whether a peace refter the building because of the erendum might be held, and to work out arrangements for the Sir Patrick made light of this main all-party talks which are

Both the British and Irish

IRA call a new ceasefire, but there had been some specula-tion that Sinn Fein could have an input into the present round of discussions via meetings with government officials. It now appears, however, that Sinn Fem are not to be al-

will not meet Sinn Fein until the

lowed into the building in the absence of a ceasefire.

Sir Patrick described the appearance of the Sina Fein del-The SDLP leader, John Hume, said his party had been rather surprised by the exclusion of Sinn Fein, having assumed that they would be in the building and free to talk to other parties

# Secretary, Sir Patrick Mayhew, intensive talks, I am sure it is go-governments have said ministers British government on probation

Incidents such vesterday's piece of theatre at Stormont are being watched closely by the Irish republican community, which at the moment effectively regards the British government as being on probation.

holds for possession of the New The IRA army council, liter-Territories, with a lease for Hong Kong as a whole. It is the ally, calls the shots in terms of New Territories lease which exacts of violence. But that tight band of militarists has to pay attention to the wider republipires next year, whereas the central part of the colony was ceded to Britain in perpetuity. can community, broadly meaning the 80,000 people who regularly vote for Sinn Fein. It may be a pedantic point be-

cause the colony would find it The Docklands bomb in Londifficult to operate without its New Territories hinterland, but it is indicative of the lack of atdon forced that community to face fundamental and chaltention that British politicians lenging questions on the future. pay to the details of Hong It is a notoriously difficult com-Kong problems. Such things are munity to read, but the signs are it has collectively reached the noticed, and even when the Prime Minister comes bearing key conclusion that it does small gifts, they are received not want a return to full-scale with little more than a shrug.

David McKittrick examines the new layers of republican mistrust

ing that the British govern-ment has now met the primary property with it, did not respond ment has now met the primary republican demand of a date for all-party talks, might be forgiven for concluding a second IRA ceasefire is now on the cards. In Belfast, however, things look different, due to a factor which is no less formidable for being intangible: lack

of trust. The unanimous opinion of the republican community is that the British government. when presented with the first IRA ceasefire, regarded it not as an opportunity to bring Sinn Fein into politics, but as a chance to push for an IRA surrender.

Republicans all now say the The observer in London or same thing: that the British STEPHEN VINES | Dublin, noting this and also not- were not serious about the

in any imaginative way and instead followed a British and Unionist agenda.

The universality of this opinion means that fresh new layers of suspicion have been laid over ancient accretions of mistrust. A date, 10 June, may have been set for talks, but republicans are looking for proof that a new ceasefire would produce a more imaginative and flexible British response.

Republican suspicions so high that even if it wished to, the army council would probably feel inhibited from declaring an-other ceasefire at this point. The fact is that it does not have to

make such a move.

With the June date in every-

see. London and Dublin have specified that Sinn Fein will not be allowed to enter the all-party talks without a ceasefire, but the IRA can pick its moment for such an announcement. Technically, it could do so at

one's diary, the IRA now has the

huxury of being able to wait and

midnight on 9 June. It could also set off another bomb or bombs. Rightly or wrongly, most people in Ireland have drawn from recent British government behaviour the moral that violence produces results. Between now and 10 June,

the republican community as a whole will be seeking signs that a new ceasefire would be followed by a new inclusive British approach. Those hopeful for such signs will have been dismayed by yesterday's scene, with its clear implication that exclusion is still the order

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TV sports rights: Lords call a halt to Murdoch buy-out

# **Bottomley** retreat on 'jewels in the crown'

MARIANNE MACDONALD

Virginia Bottomley yesterday retreated in the face of a Tory revolt in the Lords by announcing a change of policy to stop Ru-pert Murdoch's satellite television corporation buying up the exclusive rights to the "crown jewels" of British sport. The National Heritage Secretary bowed to pressure after a defeat last month by a 117 majority in the Lords to keep open access to Britain's main sporting events on BBC and ITV.

It was an embarrassing climbdown for Mrs Bottomley; campaigners were jubilant at the victory by the cross-party alliance which forced the change on the Government in the biggest upset in the Lords since the poll tax in 1988. The Heritage Department said it proposed bringing forward an amendment to the Broadcasting Bill to guarantee that live coverage of the "listed" sporting events was available on BBC and ITV.

The events are the Derby, Grand National, Wimbledon finals, FA Cup Final, Scottish FA Cup Final, the soccer World Cup, Olympic Games and England's home cricket Tests.

The same group of peers, including Lord Weatherill, the former Speaker of the Commons, are threatening to defeat the Government again today with an amendment to the Bill which would give BBC or ITV the right to highlights of national rugby or golf events, such as the Ryder Cup, bought up exclu-sively by BSkyB.

Lord Inglewood, the broadswer after a hastily announced consultation exercise which many saw as an attempt to

head off the Lords' rebellion He said the concession followed government recognition of "the strength of public and

parliamentary concern". The move was welcomed by the BBC and ITV, although Labour's national heritage spokesman, Lord Donoughue, said he wanted to see more sports given protection, not just the eight listed events.

Sky was believed last night to be claiming victory, saying the Government's only concession had been over the "crown jew-els", none of which it has broad-cast or bid for in the past.

The issue of sports rights has been red-hot since Sky Sports began outbidding terrestrial channels for rights to screen sports events such as next season's Endsleigh League and Coca-Cola Cup matches. Other broadcasters said Sky was building a sports monopoly us-ing funds they could not match. It has been able to do so as

a result of what some have portrayed as an oversight in the 1990 Broadcasting Bill, which prohibited listed events being shown exclusively on pay-perview television but, crucially, did not also exclude satellite channels such as Sky.

Lord Inglewood also gave the government line on another amendment to the bill, due to be debated in the Lords tomorrow, to oblige sporting bod-ies to "unbundle" broadcasting rights. It would require sporting bodies to offer highlights of an event to another broadcast-er if, say, a rival television sta-tion had bought exclusive live

Today the Lords debate on casting minister, announced the broadcasting bill is expectthe policy shift in a written an- ed to consider another bone of contention: whether cable broadcasters should be legally obliged to carry BBC and ITV.

## Zoologist appeals for new home for 'badger woman'

Desmond Morris, the zoologist. yesterday appealed for a new home for a naturalist facing eviction from her badger sancmary, writes Ros Wynne-Jones. Mr Morris hopes someone canoffer Eunice Overend somewhere to live and work.

وتفتنف بتلعبة ويوريرون

A decade ago, Paul Lysley, an organic farmer in Castle Combe, Wiltshire, agreed to give Miss Overend, known to

television nature programmes as "the badger woman", a 15-acre pocket of land. Recently Mr ysley gave land, including Miss Overend's 15 acres, to a former partner, Brenda Eppey, who ordered Miss Overend, 76, to

leave the property.

Ms Eppey's solicitor, Owen Strickland, said the matter was one of planning permission for Miss Overend's caravan.

# Sing if you're glad to be grey, says Saga Radio

MARIANNE MACDONALD Media Correspondent

Saga, the company whose success is built squarely on the "grey pound", has fixed its sights on a lucrative new mar-

ket - radio for the over-55s. Its application for the new Yorkshire FM licence, like its other activities - which include holidays and direct-marketing insurance - displays its now customary commercial nous. Saga is one of 13 groups competing to win the largest.

Saga Radio Top 5

1. The Way We Were 2. When I'm 64 3. As Time Goes By . 4. Evergreen 5. Granny's Song

and potentially the most lucrative, radio licence outside London. It includes Sheffield, Leeds, and Hull, and covers more than 3 million adults. While every other application for the eight-year licence -

four months - offers a wellrehearsed recipe of speech plus indie, dance, soul or easylistening music. Saga pledges to target people either in, or approaching retirement.

marketing insurance and publishing business by selling to the 18 million people in the UK over 50. Of those, the 1.3 million in the Yorkshire area spend an estimated £11bn a year. Saga's research shows that

commercial radio commands at

share in every age group apart from those aged over 55, where the share dips to 30 per

ple think the media does not The group has built its direct ireat them seriously, and 45 per cent listen to the radio "less

often nowadays".

"In the radio industry it's a neglected market," says Tim Bull, strategic planning director for the Kent-based Saga Group. "One just has to look at the

formats available to see they

to be awarded in the next least 50 per cent of listening aren't designed for an older audience."

Mr Bull said Saga would offer half speech and half music its daytime schedule, together with an information-based approach, offering tips and leads on pursuing hobbies and pastimes - particularly gardening - and advice on personal finance and health.

If awarded the licence, Saga aims to go into profit in the mid-dle of its third year, then to make at least £750,000 a year. In 1984 the group relaunched

scription only product aimed at the same age group. It now has a circulation of 650,000, up 50

per cent in the last two years. Another success story, serving the same age group, is Yours, which has seen circulation

rise every year since 1989. Its editor, Neil Patrick, said: "I think the majority of other magazines are condescending towards people this age group. Our readers tell use what interests them and almost dictate what the content should be.

Hospital

to allow

relatives

in A&E

rooms

Relatives and next of kin are to

be allowed into a hospital's

resuscitation rooms to watch

doctors and nurses frantically

using the techniques with which

many people are now familiar

thanks to the huge popularity of

television medical dramas such

In a pilot study, the Accident

and Emergency Department

of Queen Mary's University Hospital, at Roehampton in

south-west London, will allow

relatives, if they wish, into the

previously barred "crash"

But staff opinion is divided

over the plan. Senior doctors

hope it will make relatives ap-

preciate how hard they tried to

save a deceased person's life and

may cut down on subsequent

costly litigation. Juniors.

though, are not so sure. They

fear relatives will become dis-

tressed and will impede the medical team's desperate work.

about relatives' reaction when

the final decision is taken to stop

attempted resuscitation, to

switch the equipment off and

stand back. At that point, they

argue, those watching may press

for them to continue and a row

may develop. Instead of

reducing the risks of litigation,

allowing relatives to observe the

rusbed, highly pressured, often

disorganised and ill-tempered

business may increase the chances of legal action.

of Roehampton's 80 doctors.

The majority, who tended to be

drawn from the more junior, in-

experienced ranks, was firmly

opposed, while a minority was

in favour. However, as the mi-

nority comprised mainly of the

hospital's most senior staff and

The split emerged in a poll

They are also concerned

as Casualty and ER.

**CHRIS BLACKHURST** 

#### Battle of Newbury: Thirty arrests on third day of bitter clashes with bailiffs



Hanging around: A protester is brought down to earth by a bailiff at Newbury yesterday

# Bypass for first cuckoos of spring

CLARE GARNER

Thirty protesters were arrested and a security guard taken to hospital in a third day of eviction battles on the route of the Newbury bypass evictions yesterday, as it was announced that tree-felling would not be halted when the first cuckoos are born later this month.

Campaigners and police were locked in hand-to-hand fighting when mounted police and bailiffs with riot shields resumed their efforts to pluck the treetop protesters from their

More than 100 protesters, in-

cluding pensioners and local residents, repeatedly sat in front of bulldozers and mechanical cranes as they made their way down a muddy slope, but several hundred police and security guards manoeuvred the machines into position at the base of the trees.

Some protesters complained of brutal police tactics, allegedly including bending thumbs and fingers backwards and applying pressure to sensitive points around the head.

A security guard in his early 20s was taken to hospital with a back injury after he was repeatedly kicked and punched as young, but the Agency said it

be tried to surround a tree earmarked for felling. One protester crashed 15 feet to the ground after contractors chopped down a small tree he was still in the branches. He was gashed across the forehead but refused to give up his place amongst his col-

The protesters were angered by what they saw as the Highways Agency's disregard for nesting birds. It was previously thought that clearance work would be put on hold until cuckoos and other birds had

built their nests and raised their

was happy to carry on into April, provided none of the trees or bushes they cut down contain nests. A Highways Agency spokes-man said: "We have various

wildlife patrols who check the whole of the habitat to check there is no wildlife in the area that shouldn't be there. As of 31 March, in addition to our regular patrols, we have been advised by English Nature that we should have experts in residence on call 24 hours a day. just to do literally an inch-byinch search to make sure there

are no nesting birds. A spokesman for Friends of

the Earth said: "If they are felling trees around birds' nests that is bound to disturb the birds. Birds are very nervous when they are nesting and I can see eggs and young being abandoned as chainsaw gangs move

Now the protesters, who have been desperately trying to delay the work and make it extend into the "banned" period, are trying a last-ditch attempt to outwit the contractors. "We are going to plant nesting boxes in the trees. We are appealing to our feathered friends to get to Newbury as quickly as

included many consultants, the decision was taken to launch a test experiment. On average, three or four patients a week at Roehampton suffer cardiac arrest and undergo resuscitation. In two months' time, once staff have been trained to cope, patients'

allowed to be present. Dr Michael Mitchell, a consultant in the A&E department, favours the proposal. There is a growing feeling among doctors that the grieving process of relatives would be helped if they witness resusci-

relatives and next of kin will be

tation." he said yesterday. With the success of Casualny and ER, "people are much more aware and more sophisticated as to what to expect", he said but warned that it was "still a very traumatic sight, no matter how often someone has seen it on TV, and said the main priority was that relatives wishes must be obeyed.

# Hope fades for missing girl as police find body



**LASON BENNETTO** Crime Correspondent

The body of a girl - almost certainly that of Rosemary Mc-Cann, aged five, who went missing while sleeping in her hedroom - was found in a bag dumped in an alley yesterday. The dead girl, who was wear-

ing red pyjama bottoms similar to those worn by Rosemary, was left in a narrow passage behind terraced houses in Oldham, Greater Manchester.

Police found the body about 350 yards from where Rosemary was last seen seven weeks ago. The area had already been examined during a mass hunt for the girl, but a fresh search uncovered the body yesterday morning at Little Bank Street in the Roundhorn area, about

a mile from Rosemary's home. Rosemary's mother, Josephine Mahon, 26, was said to be devastated last night.

The girl was last seen by her mother asleep in her bed at about midnight at their home in Kipling Road, Oldham, on 14 January. She disappeared from her bed, wearing only pyjamas. while her mother was at a neighbour's house. A babysitter

was in the house, but when Ms Mahon returned at 2am the babysitter was asleep and Rosemary had gone.

A 31-year-old man, Andrew Pountley, of Kew Road. Oldham, has appeared in court charged with Rosemary's abduction. Detective Superintendent Ronald Gaffey, of Greater Manchester Police, said: "We have a man in custody and ...

I will obviously be talking to Bill Lawlor was carrying out a him." Det Supt Gaffey admitted that the spot where the body was found had already been searched. "You must bear in mind we [searched] something like 40 square miles of Oldham originally," he said. "Today we made a more detailed search on the basis of our investigations so far and that led us here."

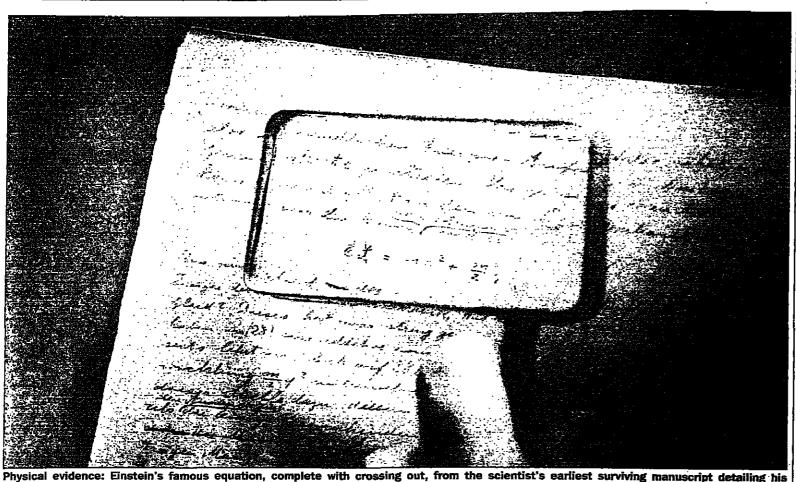
Home Office pathologist Dr

post mortem examination; the body will be formally identified later. Det Supt Gaffey said it was impossible to say how long the body had lain in the passage, or what the cause of death was until after the post mortem. Hope of finding Rosemary

alive deteriorated after weeks of intensive searching failed to



The firzt and still the bezt.



# Soames pledges to defend forces' ban on gays

HEATHER MILLS Home Affairs Corresponden

The controversial ban on gays in the armed services will be though it is likely to be forced to change its policy by the Eu-

cent supported the existing ban, would harm operational effecand a serious loss of morale.

similar number claimed homosexual cliques would damage

But gay rights groups yester-day accused the Ministry of surveyed were forced to give their names. Some were oblignior officers who had already

Angela Mason, of the group Stonewall which is supporting will appeal to the court in Stras-

importantly, the evidence from countries such as Australia, Canada, France, the Netherlands and Israel, which did not that there had been no impact on fighting power. "These con-

the former Lt Cdr Duncan Lustig-Prean, 36, ex-RAF Sgt Graeme Grady, 32, ex-RAF nurse Jeanette Smith, 28, and the former navy weapons engi-neer John Beckett, 25, have so

MoD is also likely to be found guilty of racial discrimination. investigation's broad findings spread". Figures for 1993/94 show that recruitment from the

Armed Services in their present

Another view, page 15

# OVER THE PAST 2 YEARS SHE'S EXPERIENCED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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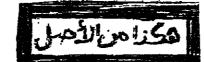
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# Warning shot fired at cowboy builders

Cowboy builders, the scourge of householders across Britain, could become a thing of the past if the recommendations of a new report by the human rights and law reform group Justice

It has issued Protecting the Householder Against Defective Building Work, which highlights the difficulties people experi-ence when faced with shoddy building work and examines how they can win redress.

The report recommends big changes to law and practice, including the introduction of a compulsory insurance-backed warranty for building work. specialist court arbitration, voluntary registration schemes for builders and a house handbook" detailing works done. It says more than £12bn is

spent every year on building hope this report will provide a work, with a further £1bn being hope this report will provide a

"declared" work is done either by one man or small firms. There are no licensing and registration requirements for builders and one survey published last year found that only half those working even in rep-

utable firms had a formal con-

struction industry qualification. Many people are attracted to small, local firms because of the informality, ease and avoidance of VAT But there is no recourse if things go wrong. Subsequently, there are estimated to be as many as 3 million complaints against builders

Lord Alexander of Weedon QC, chairman of Justice, said that over the past 25 years many attempts had been made to tackle the problem of cowboy builders, without success. "I

spent in the "black economy". lessen a problem that troubles and defective building work More than 60 per cent of the so many householders every can be quite devastating. It year," he said. The report's main recom-

mendations include legislation requiring builders undertaking any reasonably large-scale work to register with a governmentapproved insurance scheme. It also wants county courts to provide arbitrators with experience of building disputes for cases involving amounts not exceeding £10,000, promotion of a system of voluntary registration for builders, and says that lenders should be encouraged to impose as a condition

that the work be carried out by a registered builder. The report was welcomed by the Consumers Association, which said that the complaints it received tended to be "realworrying. Ashley Holmes, e association's head of legal affairs, said: "It's a big problem

can be quite devastating. It would need some legislation so we need Parliament to do something about it. I'm not sure there's the political will but there certainly should be."

He said some recommenda tions could be implemented immediately, such as the vol-untary registration of builders and the adoption of a house handbook. "The most basic thing that wouldn't cost anything is preventative medicine. People should go out of their way to try and find good builders," Mr Holmes said.

of a loan for improvements quotes and ask for recommendations from other consumers. and then go out and look at the work they ve done. A little legwork can save a lot of trouble Against Defective issuams work, £4.50; Justice: 59 Carter Lane, London, EC4V 5AQ.



History lesson: A group of children and their teacher learn about life at York Minister during a schools' week venture organised for 2,500 pupils from Church of England schools in the York diocese

# From dream home to house of heartbreak

Amanda Smith and her husband thought they had insured themselves against problems when they had their dream house built for their family, writes Jojo

They knew their builder, who was well thought of in the local community and whose large company offered a brandnamed warranty as well as being registered with many other warranty providers and builders' organisations.

The plans were drawn up for their four-bedroomed detached house and the first few months of building appeared to go without a hitch.

The first indication we had that all was not well was when the double glazing would not fit. The builder had taken it onto himself to fit inferior window frames to those agreed, costing around half the price. He then claimed we had agreed," Mrs

"They also did the same with the bricks. They said they couldn't get the bricks that we wanted and sold us some at a greater price. But we later found that the bricks we wanted had been available."

Soon, other serious faults came to light, including sub-siding floors, unattached roof tiles, an overflowing sewage system and leaking doors and

"The builder demanded full payment for the work, saying

If you're 50 or

that once it had been received he would take steps to rectify the faults and issue the warranty. We refused to pay and withheld £18,000 of the £98,000 until the house had been properly completed.".

They called the warranty organisation, which said it could not get involved unless it had the builder's warranty number. He would not give it unless they paid him in full.

Five years of legal wrangling ensued, in which Mrs Smith said she became "sick with worry". The builder issued a writ for full payment and the warranty orcanisation agreed to conciliation. "Five times they gave him. a notice period to carry out the work, which he did not comply with. After all this they stated they were unable to complete the work because the matter was sub judice."

The eventual cost of the remedial work was around £50,000, of which half was met by the Smiths (including the £18,000 they had withheld) and £25,000 from the warranty.

"I think the new recommendations would have helped. I also think it would be a good thing to make sure that any alterations to the specifications should be signed by the builder, owner and architect.," said Mrs

(Names have been changed)

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# Jaguar hopes for instant success with unveiling of a classic show-stopper-



It is being hailed as the spiritual successor to the classic Jaguar E-type, the sports car which stopped a generation in its tracks when it was launched 35 years ago. The new XK8 sports coupé, unveiled today at the Geneva Motor Show, will replace the 20-year-old XJS when

which is said to have the performance of an Aston Martin DB7 but will sell for two-thirds of the Aston's £78,500 price, will appeal to car lovers of all ages.

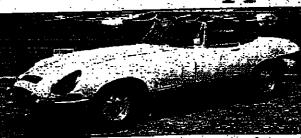
The new Jaguar is bigger than the old E-type and combines characteristics of the classic sports coupé with the

it goes on sale in October. XJS's grand tourer style. It will car, unlike a lot of cars on the Jaguar hopes the new model, cost £52,000 and the company road which are indistinguishhopes to sell about 12,000 cars the future. in the first year. It has a new four-litre V8 engine which uses

less fuel than recent Jaguars. Andy Pegge, director of the Classic Car Club company, said: "I don't think anything will replace the E-type. But this new Jaguar is definitely a stylish ation of sports machines.

able, so it could be a classic in

The E-type was an instant sensation when it was launched at Geneva in March 1961. Half the price of an Italian exotic or an Aston Martin, it was seen then as heralding a new gener-



# Stalker jailed for terrifying sex obsession

JASON BENNETTO Crime Correspondent

A Falklands war veteran, who stalked a woman with whom he became obsessed, was jailed for three years yesterday for the psychological harm he caused.

Anthony Burstow, 36, a former Royal Navy petty officer. terrified Tracey Sant, 28, by sending her a soiled sanitary towel in the post, stealing her underwear from a washing line and writing sinister notes. He signed one note "666", Reading Crown Court was told.

Burstow admitted a charge of "grievous bodily harm" against Ms Sant. The prosecution argued that Burstow's harassment caused "psychological" damage to his victim. Judge Josh Lait said he had

subjected Ms Sant to a "prolonged mental ordeal" and had sought to control her whole life". He said Burstow had intended to cause Ms Sant psychological distress. The case comes at a time of growing concern about the ac-tivities of stalkers whose victims face persistent harassment.

Under existing laws, stalking is not a crime. It is only the ensuing actions, such as threatening, abusive, or insulting behaviour that enable the police to act. The Labour Party is drawing up proposals to make stalking a criminal offence that would carry a maximum jail sentence of four years.

In yesterday's case. Paul Reid, prosecuting, told the court that Ms Sant and Burstow both of whom were married - struck up a triendship while she was a civil servant in the summer of 1992.

Mr Reid said she ended the relationship in August 1992 be-cause she felt Burstow was becoming too involved. This was the start of his obsession. In January 1993, Burstow

was bound over to keep the peace for two years after making nuisance phone calls and following Ms Sant in his car. In September 1993, he was suffered stress and depression.

damaging her car. In March 1994, he was jailed for 18 months for burgling Ms Sant's

home and taking underwear. Ms Sant moved to live with her parents, but Burstow sent her disturbing packages, including the sanitary towel. made more offensive phone calls and scattered condoms in the garden.

Burstow was arrested by police on 12 July last year when he was caught lying in wait for her. Ms Sant had been suffering from severe depression, panic

osvehological warfare. It was one of a handful of cases where the psychological effects of stalking have been used to prosecute. In March 1995 Robert Banks, of Wakefield, West Yorkshire, was jailed for two years for the mental harm he caused by stealing his victim's underwear and sending her ob-

attacks and sleeping difficulties - all brought on by Burstow's scene photographs. His victim

> Weighing in: Barbara Hepworth's sculpture Contrapuntal Forms being lifted into place outside the Royal Festival Hall, London, where it resides again for the first time in over ears. The four-tonne work, in Irish blue limestone, was com Festival of Britain before being removed to Harlow, in Essex Photograph: Kippa Matthews

# Patients unaware of new remedies for arthritis

GLENDA COOPER

Millions of arthritis victims are suffering unnecessarily because of ignorance about effective treatment, a medical research charity claimed yesterday.

Early treatment can prevent destruction of joints but too many sufferers, particularly old-er people, still believe nothing. can be done to help and do not ask their doctor to refer them to a rheumatologist, says the Arthritis and Rheumatism

Council The charity, celebrating its diamond jubilee, launched a campaign yesterday to raise awareness among sufferers and doctors of progress in treating this debilitating disease. At pre-sent more than 11 million people in the UK suffer from arthritis but it is only in the past 10 years that new drugs and surgery have been able to offer relief from the worst symptoms.

Many arthritic diseases can be treated and controlled so that they are no longer a problem with treatment concentrating on the relief of pain, maintenance of maximum joint function and the treatment of the disease process. Recent research has also shown that steps can be taken to reduce the onset of osteoarthritis and osteoporosis with regular exercise. . .

The treatment of rheumatoid arthritis in its early stages has been particularly successful. Within the past year, two drugs

- corticosteroids and cyclo-sporin A - have been used to

Research also suggests that not only do patients have a right know more about their arthritis but that knowledge itself can help in the treatment. Dr John Kirwan, consultant rheumatologist and chairman of the ARC's education committee, said patients who take control of their disease and work in partnership with their GP do much better than those who are dependent.

"Helping yourself can be as important as the new drugs. That is why we need more education as part of the treatment for arthritis sufferers," he said.

Over the years the ARC has campaigned for the NHS to create the specialty of rheumatology, and has funded 14 chairs of rheumatology at different universities including Man-chester, Glasgow and Leeds.

Dr Kirwan added: "Treat-ment should be sought as early as possible. There is growing evidence that the earlier therapy is given the better the destruction which is characteristic of most types of arthritis. It is a tragedy when people do not receive treatment when there is now so much more that can be done.

Arthritis Can Be Treated: large SAE for 29p to ARC, PO Box 177, Chesterfield, Derbyshire

# Pensioner saved from jail

WILL BENNETT

A sympathiser saved a 79-yearold animal rights campaigner from prison yesterday after paying off the remains of a fine imposed for turning a hosepipe on a police officer during a demonstration against live

Tilly Merritt. who became one of the best-known campaigners against the live animal trade in the Essex port of Brightlingsea, was about to leave for Holloway prison in a penny herself. north London when Lewis

PST CUTLERY SET

Brightlingsea, stepped in.

Two months ago Mrs Merritt. a widow and great grandmother, who lives in Brightlingsea, was fined £150 with £102 costs and ordered to pay £50 compensation for assaulting the policeman during the demonstration in the port last August.

An anonymous donor paid all but £50 of the £302 penalty, but at Colchester magistrates' court in Essex vesterday Mrs Merritt disappointed. I was prepared to remained defiant about paying

She said she was not happy

Hazel. 65. and also from that someone else had paid most of it and as supporters in the public gallery shouted insults at Adrian Amos, the chairman

of the magistrates, she added: 'I would sooner go to prison.' Mr Amos told Mrs Merritt: "Regrettably, the court has to send you to prison for two

Mrs Merritt said after her release: "At first I was a bit uptight about being released, I was a bit go to jail, I had my bag packed. But he meant well, he did not want to see me go to jail."

Woolworths has learned of a potential fault in its own brand First Cutlery Set whereby the middle two prones of the fork become accidentally fractured by the application of force thus presenting a possible choking hazard. The fork is sold as part of a First Cutler, fork and spoon set in blister packaging. There are two versions of the First Cutlery set. One has a colour pattern of teddy bears and according to research published building bricks on the handle and the second a colour

> pattern of parrots and monkeys, also on the handle. In the interest; of safety, and as a precautionary neasure, anyone who has purchased one of these First Cutlery sets should return it to the nearest Woodworths, where a full refund will be given. Alternatively, the First Curlety set can be

Product Recall Notice

Woolworths

First Cutlery Set (£0.75)

returned to Woolworth- by parcel post for Customer Relations, Woolworth, plc. 142-246 Marylebone Road, London NWI 6JL Purchase price, postage and packaging will be retunded in full. Telephone enquiries should be directed to Woolwarths Customer Relations

# School-leavers' pay down 20%

Nearly half the 16-year-olds who leave school are paid less than £1.50 an hour and their average wage has dropped in real terms by one-fifth in five years,

The average hourly pay for school-leavers was £1.63 in 1995 compared with £1.69 in 1990. the Low Pay Unit has found in an analysis of data from the careers service and JohCentres in Greater Manchester. That represents a fall in cash terms of 3.6 per cent, but a drop of 18.9 per cent when the cost of living is taken into account.

The unit, which believes its data reflects the national pic-

ture, found that nearly 55 per cent of the jobs for 16-year-olds and 48 per cent of those for 17-

year-olds paid below the National Insurance threshold - at present £58. In 1990, about 10 per cent of jobs for 16-year-olds and 7 per cent for 17-year-olds were under the minimum.

Gabrielle Cox, author of the report, said: "It is bad enough for adult workers to face exploitation, but a society which allows its young people to be treated in this way must question its sense of values.7 Case studies showed that one 16-year-old was paid £30 for a 40-bour week in a garage.

When he inquired about com-pensation for losing the top of a finger at work, he was told he was a "sub-contractor".

# Check on boy's care for mother

Tower Hamlets council has promised the High Court that it will assess the needs of an epileptic woman and her 10year-old son who is her sole

сагет. Annabel Benjamin, 35, is susceptible to black-outs and violent fits and her son, Sean, is often the only person on hand to help her. They took their case to the High Court in an attempt to force their local authority to provide assistance under community care and children's legislation.

A judge granted leave for a judicial review of the case. Tower Hamlets was given 28 days to file evidence to the High Court. Ms Benjamin has been

epileptic since Sean was born and has an average of three violent fits a day. She seldom leaves her second-floor council flat, terrified that she will pass

out in the street. "It is not fair that a 10-yearold cannot enjoy his childhood because he feels obliged to look after me," she said.

Despite approaches to Tower Hamlets council, the family has not been assessed for assistance, such as a sitting service to allow Sean to pursue activities outside school

After the hearing, Nicola Mackintosh, representing the family, said: "Her [Ms Benjamin's fits have increased as a result of the lack of action from social services and Sean

Kith

By Marion Lomax

On the other side of the border they call this Scozia Irredenta:

A few coffers of coins didn't change hands; a battle was lost instead of won: the in-between land

A line on a mar moved back through the years down to the Tees. England was never an only child but has grown to think so. Stone streets dip rise. They're burning coal on morning fires in dark front rooms: smoke gusts over roofs. Gardens, late coming into flower, brazen it out with bright aubrietia.

I've followed the hills to Carter Bar past lost peels, and moors where soaking sheep stagger between tufts of died-back grass. Standing in the rain, she's there - harassed. hurt - a foster-mother, telling me she hasn't much to offer. I'll take my chance: I don't believe her.

won't make up their minds. Five times

on the border

they twist me round, but I still

In 1138, David I, King of the Scots, moved the Scottish border down to the Eden and the Tees. For much of the 11th century Northumbria alternated between Scotland and England: at one stage Northumbria stretched to the Firth of Forth and Cumbettand was part of the Celtic kingdom of Strathchyde. The changing border – it finally settled in the 13th century – is the starting point for this, the first poem in Marion Lomax's collection, Raiding the Borders, published this month by Bloodaxe at £6.95. These are accomplished forays through time and place.

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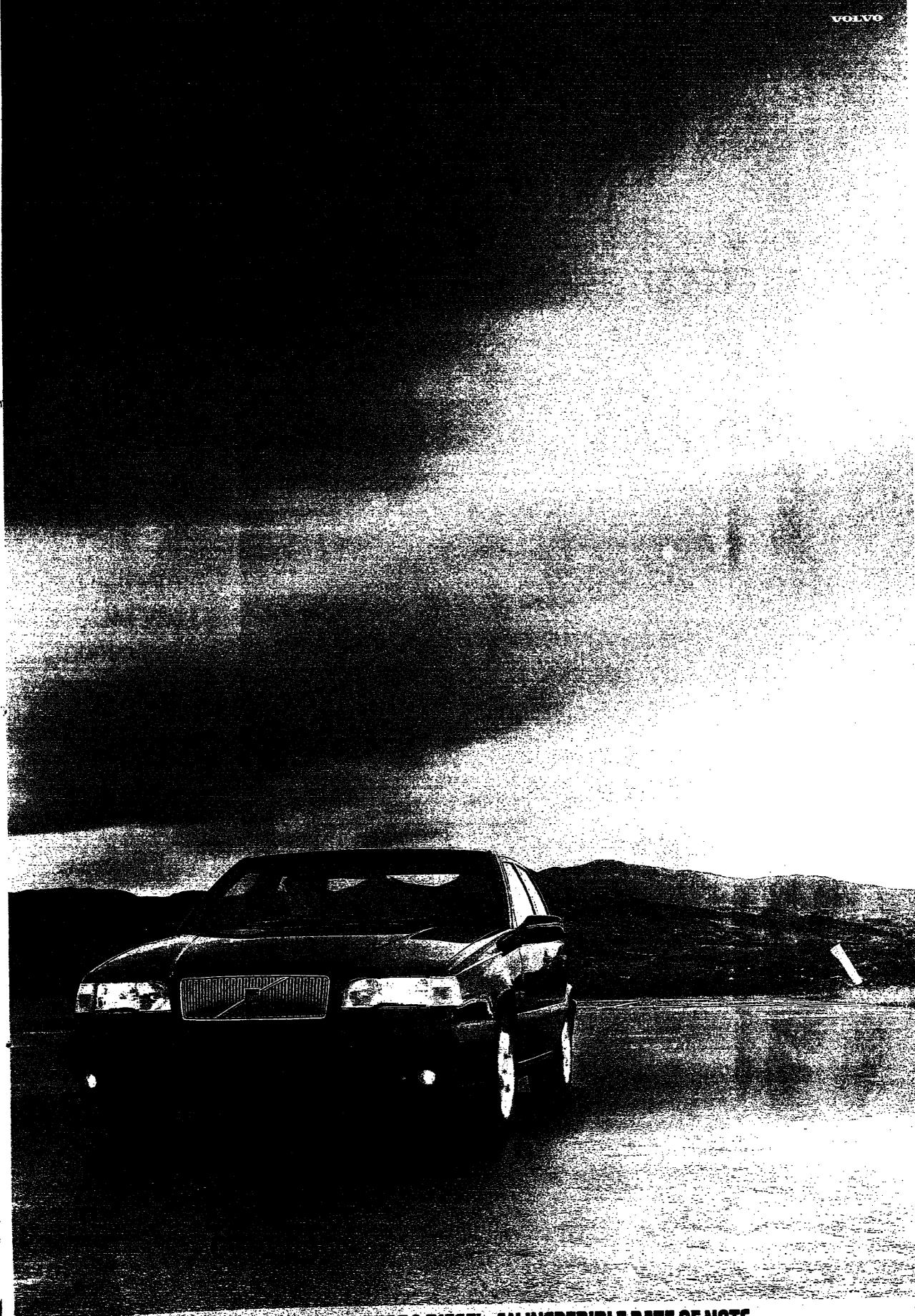
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HARLS POEM



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According to union sources.

Mr Hall's remarks - at the AEEU women's conference in Eastbourne yesterday - were not only a reference to Tony Blair's arts world devotees like Lord Attenborough and Barbara Follett, but also to a record of potential MPs known as "Tony's List".

This is said to be a catalogue of prospective candidates who would be loyal to the Labour leader, but union officials say it has superseded "Emily's List" - a roll call of women being and experts in law, but above all groomed and pushed to enter





Supporting cast: The writer Barbara Follett and the film director Lord Attenborough have lined up behind Tony Blair

parliament. Mr Hall told delegates: "It is crucial that our political representatives are in touch with the people that put them in parliament. Of course we need experts in economics

The speech was also targeted at Michael Wills, a former adviser to Gordon Brown. Labour's treasury spokesman. Also a friend of Peter Mandelson. MP for Hartlepool and Mr Blair's public relations guru. Mr Wills has since become a tele-

vision producer. More importantly for the union, he beat the shop steward Jim D'avila, an AEEU candidate, to become parliamentary candidate for Swindon North amid claims of ballot irregularities.

Mr Hall is angry about the

treatment of Mr D'avila, who took legal action over alleged fraud in the selection. Labour's national executive voted against a new election and will choose the prospective MP from the five original

# Labour told to seek more 'experts in life' The Parliamentary Labour Editor The Aradjamentary Labour Editor The Amalgament Elegation of Britain's lagst unions. The Market Hall's remarks a dispending the Labour Englishment of Britain's lagst unions. The Amalgament Elegation of Britain's lagst unions. The Amalgament Elegation of Britain's lagst unions of Britain's lagst unions. The Amalgament Elegation of Britain's lagst unions of Britain's lagst unions of Britain's lagst unions. The Amalgament Elegation of Britain's lagst unions of B

yesterday dismissed by MPs and councils as a panic U-turn that would fail to tackle underlying financial problems.

Michael Forsyth, Secretary of State for Scotland, also drew vitriolic criticism from a nationalist MP as he outlined the package at the Commons Scottish Grand Committee sitting in

Kilmarnock, Strathclyde. Mr Forsyth came forward with a rescue package 24 hours before Scotland's new unitary councils were due to meet to set their budgets and tax levels for the coming year. Authorities

level for Glasgow and a £35 reduction for Caithness. But in the stormiest so far of the peripateic Grand Com-mittee sessions recently intro-not from the spending decisions duced by the Government. Andrew Welsh, SNP MP for East Angus, denounced Mr Forsyth as a "snake oil salesman telling his lies". The outburst came after no

nationalist MPs were called in the debate. When ordered to apologise by John Maxton, the committee's Labour chairman. Mr Welsh declared: "You haven't seen fit to call me, so I can't express my opinion." Mr Maxton suspended the session for five minutes when Mr Welsh refused to withdraw the re-

mark or leave the meeting. Under the Government's backage, councils will be alowed to switch £58m from capital budgets to revenue spending for priority areas such as education. They will also get a £38m package specifically de-signed to lessen council tax inveraging 15 per cent.

was put to us by many of the cuts."

areas concerned would be protected from the turbulence cre-

Scornful Labour MPs were quick to spotlight earlier govemment suggestions that no new money was to be made available. George Robertson, the shadow Scottish secretary. said: "This is not so much a Uturn as a somersault. This is a victory for the people of Scot-

land, but only a partial one." In a counter-attack, Mr Forsyth mocked Labour's sup-port of council pleas for an extra £395m without saving where the money would come from.

Councils reacted coolly, with Rosemary McKenna, president of the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities, saying: "This is a panic measure.

saying for six months that there is a serious problem. This will reases after warnings of rises do nothing to protect services, and councils will still have a se-Mr Forsyth said: "I am sym- rious problem about the level of pathetic to the argument which services, and there will still be

# Chancellor paints a rosy picture of the economy

☐ Clarke's lifeline for Middle England □ Brown reminds House of bleak times

wo rather different pic-tures of the British econonly were painted in the Commons yesterday. An ebullient Kenneth Clarke predicted 1996 would be the year when Middle England at last felt the benefits of the recovery while his Labour shadow, Gordon Brown, dwelt on new evidence

the economy as the Conservatives' best electoral asset. The debate was scheduled by the Government in order to highlight the improved prospects and to embarrass the Labour Party over its apparent lack of

an alternative strategy. But though the Chancellor said he was able to paint a "rosy picture" because that was what he expected, the exercise was blunted by Tory Euro-sceptics, abetted by the Opposition, who were miffed by Mr Clarke's latest expression of sympathy for a single currency.

Mr Brown also exposed a

degree of amnesia in both the Chancellor and Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, over their own words and deeds. Mr Clarke could not name the "better programmes" he claimed would replace the Community Action Programme, set up to help 30,000

long-term jobless and to be axed at the end of this month. And Mr Lang seemingly could not remember what he had actually said about job insecurity being only in the mind. Challenged by Mr Brown to apologise for the remark, Mr Lang claimed he had not said it, but when asked for the cor-

rect quote he stayed mum. Malcolm Bruce, for the Liberal Democrats, said he believed Mr Clarke was using the debate to trail an interest rate cut. But he warned: "If interest rates are cut later this week it will not be because of the strength of the economy but because of its weakness." Government borrowing was "out of control", he said. "The Chancellor's good intentions only go so far and when the chips are down he runs into the buffers of political op-

Opening the debate, Mrs. Clarke maintained that the "clear red water" between Labour and modern enterprise economics was as wide as ever. spend and they would let inflation rise. In the 1990s there is still no alternative to the enterprise economy we are creating. We haven't created our hand them over to yesterday's

Wilsonian men." The economy was facing the most favourable circumstances any MP could remember, Mr Clarke said. Conditions for firms to invest had "rarely been better" and because inflation was under control he had been



able to reduce interest rates to

historically low levels. He predicted that 1996 would be the year when the ordinary citizen would begin to feel the real benefit of economic recover. "Now Middle England will begin to see in 1996 that our promise of greater prosperity and more jobs without a return to boom and bust

is beginning to be delivered." With mortgage rates at their lowest level for nearly 30 years and house prices, in relation to incomes, at their lowest level for over a decade, there would be bargains for first time buyers".

Increased consumer spending would be the main source of growth in the economy. His only departures from what Labour's Denis MacShane called a fantasy" were over the European single currency, unwillingly, and a passing nod to job insecurity.

Mr Brown said the best barometer of the feel-good factor was the decision of 52 Tory MPs to retire at the next elec-

tion and the attempt by 13 other to quit their marginal seats for a "not yet" marginal seat.

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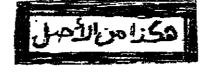
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# Israel bomb attacks: Twenty feared dead as Hamas claims responsibility for latest outrage to hit Middle East negotiations Tel Aviv blast has peace on the ropes

RUPERT CORNWELL Washington

A suicide bomber killed up to 20 people and wounded 78, including children, outside a crowded Tel Aviv shopping mall yesterday, putting the continued existence of the Middle East

peace process in question.
The bombings are designed to wreck Arab-Israeli peace-making and could rob Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres of victory in the early elections he has called for May 29.

The Islamic group Hamas claimed responsibility for the blast, the second in two days. Israeli television and radio quoted police as saying up to 20 people had died; on Sunday, a Hamas suicide bomber killed 18

people on a bus in Jerusalem.
"It is a suicide bomber who crossed the street on the corner of Dizengoff and King George (streets) in a crowd of people and cars and blew himself up." said Tel Aviv's police chief, chief Gabi Last.

Ronnie Milo, mayor of Tel Aviv, said the bomber planned to enter the shopping mall which was full of children in cos-tume for a Jewish holiday. "The bomber apparently was on his way into the shopping centre where they were dozens of kids celebrating Purim," Mr Milo said. "He apparently saw the policeman at the entrance to the centre and decided to blow himself up on the street. We saw his head several metres away." He said the bomber had explosives strapped to his body.

An unidentified caller to Israel Radio's Arabic service said Hamas was responsible. "An anonymous caller speaking in Arabic claimed he was talking in the name of the Hamas movement and said that Salah Abdel-Rahim Ishaq, 24, from

tack," the report said. Palestinian President Yasser spokesman as calling the blast "a declaration of war". "The innocent people", has stunned peace" and reject the "division

peace process is in danger," Mr Arafar's spokesman Marwan Kanafani said.

Mr Arafat told reporters at his headquarters: "We will cooperate with the Israeli government to confront these dangerous criminal acts that target the Palestinian people and the Israeli people and the peace

Mr Peres's government has urged Mr Arafat repeatedly to get tough with Islamic mili-tants of the Hamas group, who have claimed responsibility for the most of the attacks which have killed more than 200 Israelis since September 1993.

Mr Arafat, who later met with top security chiefs in emergency session, told reporters that "this is the time for action at all levels and not a time for words". He said his security forces had been in a "state of

emergency" since Sunday. But the immediate impact of the new bomb seemed to be to deal the fragile peace process another heavy blow.

Last night, Mr Peres's office said that Israel had ordered home its delegation to peace talks with Syria in the United States. "We are sending the delegation bome following the latest attack," said an official.

The Israeli-Syrian talks had been suspended until Wednesday following Sunday's bombing. Syria, stopping short of outright condemnation of that attack, said yesterday that Israel could never achieve security or stability if it did not work to achieve what Damascus called real and just peace with the

Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, yesterday cut short a visit to the Caribbean to chair an emergency session of President Bill Clinton's top national security advisers on the crisis in Israel, convened even

The latest attack, condemned



lears for peace: Friends mourn Gidway Taspance, an Ethopian killed in Sunday's blast

and dismayed the administration, leaving it few options to prevent the complete unravelling of a Middle East peace process in which Washington has invested considerable

Speaking during a campaign Arafat was quoted by his by President Clinton as "a trip to Michigan, Mr Clinton senseless act of violence against urged Israelis to "fight for

and conflict" which were the goals of extremists on all sides. Jewish and Arab alike. But those exhortations will be hard to translate into reality - as shown by the jeers that rained as he visited the scene of the

bombing yesterday. In practice there seems little the US can do. According to a other Palestinian terrorists.

White House spokesman, the meeting of Mr Christopher, the Defense Secretary William Perry, the CIA director John Deutch, and Anthony Lake, Mr Clinton's national security the US Ambassador to Israel, of assisting the Israelis". That, presumably, includes the use of US intelligence to help track down members of Hamas and

Photograph: Jerome Delave

Beyond that, Washington will do what it can to exert pressure on the Arab states in the region to give no succour or shelter to the terrorist groups, who some experts believe may ministered Gaza strip or West Bank, but outside Israel altogether, perhaps in Jordan or Lebanon - in the latter case with

# Exiles shed no tears over slaughter

ROBERT FISK

Just over a week ago, in a Beirut hospital, a 74-year-old Palestinian woman, driven from her home in Acre in the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, lay dying. Her

daughter came to see her.

Have you heard the news? she asked her mother who had only three days to live. "There have been two suicide bombings in Israel. There are more than 20 dead." The woman stared at her daughter. "Prop me up in bed," she said. "I want to hear more." Thus did a dying woman recover a spark of life from the news of savage death.

Among the Palestinian diaspora there was precious little sympathy for the passengers on the Jerusalem buses and the shoppers in Tel Aviv.

Every Middle East atrocity produces outrage and amnesia. and the ferocious suicide-bombings in Israel have produced the usual mixture of fury and loss of historical memory, both short and long-term, as the "peace process" crumbles away.

If Israelis have only just woken up to the probability of collapse, the same cannot be said of millions of Arabs who - despite the support for the Oslo accord of their pro-Western governments - long ago abandoned hope of a just peace. How could the dying woman demonstrate such satisfaction at the terrible news from

For survivors of the 1948 exodus and their descendants, the suffering of the Palestinian diaspora at the hands of the Israelis long ago neutered compassion for Israel. On the walls of the Sabra and Chatila camps, at Mar Elias in Beirut and at Ein el-Helwe in Sidon, the most familiar face is that of Yahva Ayyash, the Hamas bombmaker, the "Engineer" assassi-nated by Israeli intelligence agents on 5 January. As usual, the Islamists have turned the Israeli policy of an eye for an eye on its head, claiming at least 60

lives for the life of a single man. Hamas cuts little ice in Lebanon. Its members here have nothing to offer the who have been cut out of Yasser Arafat's deal. But in the camps yesterday there was no shortage of young men to give history lessons. "Hamas and the Israelis had a ceasefire that lasted seven months and then Israel broke the ceasefire by murdering Ayyash," one said. "So Hamas takes its revenge

and the Israelis expect us to burst into tears for them." Less angry voices asked why the world had forgotten that Israel had helped to create Hamas as an Islamic "balance" to Mr Arafat's influence, when the PLO were supposed to be the arch-"terrorists" of the Middle East.

It is a fact that several Hamas men deported to south-ern Lebanon by Yitzhak Rabin in 1992 personally met Shimon Peres. And it is also true that Israel was last week threatening to repeat its old "balancing" act, as Ehud Barak, the Foreign Minister, announced that Israel might reopen talks with Hamas. if Arafat did not "deal" with the group. "We told you the 'peace process' would not work from the day the PLO signed the accord with Israel," a Palestinian Marxist remarked, "But it needed the Israelis to start saying so before you believed it. Now, in the middle of this 'peace'. Hamas have declared war and pushed the Israelis into declaring 'all-out war'. That's what Begin declared on Arafat in 1982. That's what Rabin declared on the Hizbollah in 1993. They both failed. And now Peres will fail."

The non-Islamic Palestinian militants here are drawing even grimmer conclusions. Hamas, they suspect, has reunited, following disputes between its politburo and its armed members, and has decided to discredit Mr Arafat and start a civil war in the West Bank between Palestinians and the Jewish settlers.

"It was not by chance that they bombed the bus route used by the settlers," a member

of the Democratic Front said.

They are going for the right-wing Israelis, the settlers, provoking an attack from them. maybe another Hebron [mosque massacre]."

Palestinian leaders in Beirut and Damascus realise Hamas is now going all-out to destroy the Oslo accord. Despite their conthey do not like what they see. "We do not want an Islamic Palestine any more than Arafat," an angry veteran of the 1982 war said last night.

# Chief heads for trouble over wrong royal skull

ROBERT BLOCK Johannesburg

Nicy (I) General

Chief Nicholas Tilana Gcaleka, perhaps the most publicised headhunter of all time, is in big headhunter trouble.

Less than one week after his triumphant return to South Africa from Scotland with what he claimed was the 161-year-old skull of King Hintsa - the Xhosa ruler killed by British-led forces in 1835 - Chief Gcaleka has been accused of being a take and har by tribal elders. The chief responded yester-

day by calling on President Nelson Mandela and the Anglican Archbishop, Desmond Tutu, to come to his aid.

The controversy over Chief Gcaleka's find in Inverness last week reached fever pitch when the present Xhosa king, Xolilizwe Sigcau, and his court refused to sanction the planned burial of the skull because they said it was not the disembodied head of Hintsa. The king said

played a bullet hole above the right ear and was intact, whereas the historical record indicated Hintsa was shot at point-blank range behind the left ear and his head was shattered.

The king called on South Africans not to be fooled by Chief Gcaleka. Adding insult to injury, the king then said that Chief Gcaleka had acted without proper authority and was not even a member of Hintsa's clan and therefore had no business getting involved. Chief Gcaleka says that he is the great-great nephew of Hintsa and was called on by the spirits of his ancestors to go to Scotland to find Hintsa's head.

There is no historical evidence that Hintsa was decapitated, although his body was mutilated; his ears were supposedly cut off and some teeth pried out by British soldiers in

the Sixth Frontier war. Until now the chief has re-

that Chief Gcaleka's skull dis- amination of the skull on the grounds that the ancestors could be angry" at such undignified treatment of the king's remains. He said at the weekend he still planned to bury the skull on 12 May - the 161st anniversary of the king's murder - at a grave site beside the Nqabara river, where Hintsa died.

But Chief Gcaleka's call for help yesterday to President Mandela - who has lent his moral support to the chief's mission - and Archbishop Tutu was viewed by many Xhosa experts as an act of desperation.

Jimmy Matyu, a Xhosa jour-nalist in the eastern Cape, said before the chief left that he was playing with a highly emotive ssue which could backfire if he found anything but the legiti-mate head of Hintsa. "If he doesn't bring back the real thing or tries to fool people, they will be crying for Gcaleka's head instead," Mr Matyu said. The trial of the former defused to allow a forensic ex- fence minister General Magnus



Majan and 19 co-defendants for 13 apartheid-era murders was postponed for a week yesterday in order to give the defence time to study amended charges.
The delay was welcomed by

skull is king's lost remains

General Malan, "We've got a good case, we've got a good judge. That's why I'm smiling.

my conscience is clear." The indictment says General Malan and the other former senior officers accused were involved in a covert operation to turn the Inkatha Zulu movement against the African National Congress. The operation is alleged to have led to the massacre of 13 people in 1987. I promptly suspended relations

# Orthodox patriarchs pray for end to schism

the tacit consent of Syria.

PHIL REEVES Moscow

After days of slugging it out beard-to-beard, the two heavyweight patriarchs of Eastern Orthodoxy appear to be simmering down after one of the church's most serious disputes since the Middle Ages. There is even talk of a reconciliation. More than a week after news of the furore first began to reverberate around the onion domes of Europe and Russia,

II, yesterday indicated that negotiations were under way to avert an irreversible schism. At issue is a decision by his counterpart, Bartholomew I.

the Patriarch of Moscow, Alexy

Patriarch of Constantinople, to accept into the fold the Estonian church, which recently broke free from Moscow after a period of subordination which began when Stalin annexed the Baltic republic in 1940. The Patriarchate of Moscow

with Constantinople - historically the mother church - and launched a distinctly unclerical verbal assault, accusing it of shattering age-old Orthodox unity" by supporting Estonia's "nationalist dissenters". Con-

stantinople replied that Moscow was "hurling threats". Yesterday, Alexy II's spokesman (who glories in the title of Metropolitan Kirill of Smolensk and Kaliningrad) reiterated his complaints against the rival prelate. But the spokesman also said efforts were under way towards a reconciliation.

"We realise how dangerous this situation is. We do not want a schism in Orthodoxy," he said. "We can only work and pray for the situation to change radically for the better to prevent a final break in relations." This will not be easy, given the competing aspirations of the two patriarchs for leadership of the world's 250m-300m Eastern

Orthodox Christians.

The squabble arose from a split within Estonia, which, in effect, now has two Orthodox Churches. One is Estonian, the legacy of a church-in-exile whose clerics fled to Sweden when the Soviets arrived. It wants to be in the jurisdiction of Istanbul. The other is Russian-dominated, and wants to shelter beneath the protec-

tive wing of Moscow. This division has been deepened by a strong suspicion among Estonian believers that their Russian counterparts are more interested in retaining a political foothold in the couniry than in matters ecclesiastical. Rumours abound that the Russian wing of the church includes infiltrators from the security services - a claim that the Moscow-backed faction denies.

But Russians both in Estonia and in Moscow argue that it is yet another example of the anti-Russian discrimination that has taken root across much of the former Soviet Union.

#### Iraq set for oil deal with UN

Ankara (AP) — Iraq may reach a decision on a United Nations plan for it to sell oil in exchange for humanitarian aid during talks next week, the Iraqi oil minister said yesterday.

"We are thinking very positively this time. Negotiations are seriously under way. We hope to come to a final decision in the next talks with the UN on 11 March," Amir Mohammed Rasheed said, in the southern Turkish town of Ceyhan.

Mr Rasheed visited the Turkish oil terminal at the Mediterranean town of Yumurtalik. near Ceyhan, after crossing the border at Habur yesterday.

with the possible reopening of an oil pipeline that has been closed under UN sanctions since the invasion of Kuwait in 1990. Iraq has rejected previous UN attempts to allow Iraq to

make limited oil sales.

We are here for the reopening of the pipeline." Mr Rasheed said. It was apparently the first time that an Iraqi official had travelled across northern Iraq since the end of the Gulf war.

Iraqi Kurds have established a de facto state in the northern part of the country under the protection of a US-led allied air force, based in Turkey, Under UN sanctions, air travel between Baghdad and Ankara is banned.

The state-run pipeline company. Botas, said the Turkish part of the pipeline could be operational in a month, once the UN and Iraq came to an agreement. It was not clear how much work is needed on the Iragi half of the pipeline. Mr Botas said the oil flushing could be completed in 80-90 days.

Under the UN plan, the oil would be used in Turkey's domestic refining network. In exchange for oil. Turkey would send humanitarian goods to Iraq. A portion of the funds generated through the plan would go to a UN fund, to pay for war reparations.

# Peking panics as Chinese workers get the union habit

**TERESA POOLE** Peking

For three days last summer, private stallholders in the Hongqiao consumer-goods market in central Peking behaved quite out of character for Chinese high local-government taxes and the fees charged by the

owner of the building.
The next month, outside the Ne star Palace Hotel, 40 drivers staged a sit in after blocking the hotel entrance with a coach decorated with a large banner.

staged a sit-in during the morning rush hour, sparked by a sudden rise in the entrance price at their favourite Zhongshan Park. Inflation was eroding their pensions, they complained.

Such are the varied ways in which China's increasingly emboldened workers and pensell customers any goods. It was sioners are airing their Congress (NPC), opens today, their way of protesting about grievances. The complaints are social stability will again be a nahigh local management. well-worn: unfair taxes, overdue wages, bad working conditions. sackings. But what has changed is a new assertiveness that is

being seen across the board. Jean-Victor Gruat, former director of the International Labour Organisation office in "We protest against the Palace Peking, said: "The Chinese sit-Hotel's unjustifiable sacking of uation in industrial relations is uation in industrial relations is employees, it read. In De-becoming closer to normal. So what some could see as a degrain the central city of Wuhan dation, others may see as the city of Zhuhai were sentenced

lar, there were more than 12,000 protests and petitions by labourers, farmers and miners in the first 10 months of 1995. When the Chinese "parliament", the National People's ister, Li Peng, will stress the government's commitment to improve conditions and welfare for those who feel they are falling behind in China's economic transformation. But

drivers in the southern boom

agement order". The only acceptable mouthpiece is the closely controlled All China Federation of Trade Unions (ACFTU). Independent labour organisations remain illegal. When the NPC met two years ago, the newly formed League for the Protection of the Rights of Working People pethere remains no flexibility for titioned for an improvement in labour rights, including the those who want to take their grievances into their own hands. right to strike and to set up in-In January, eight taxi-

vers protesting against unfair treatment by the traffic police. The strike was judged to have "seriously disturbed social security and road-traffic manno reported arrests.

dependent unions. All its main protagonists were detained. But this intolerance has North-east China has seen

road towards normality." But to up to two years of "re-this terrifies the government. According to an internal circuits instigating a strike by 300 drian a stand. Nor can the authorities making heavy industries. Relialways employ a heavy-fisted approach, particularly when old people are involved. Three months ago, 40 elderly petitioners gathered outside the Zhongnanhai leadership compound in Peking, protesting about their homes being cleared for redevelopment. There were

Unrest in loss-making state enterprises is the most alarming prospect for Peking. Last month. Mr Li explained why large-scale bankruptcies and lay-offs were unsuitable. "If China were to use such capitalist methods, it would shirk its responsibility to the people, and it would trigger social unrest."

able statistics are hard to come by, but even a survey by ACF-TU found a one-third increase in stoppages, petitions, sit-ins and other protests in stateowned enterprises in 1994. At the beginning of last year,

the government launched a wide-ranging new labour law but so far almost all the successful disputes highlighted in the Chinese media have been those involving foreign firms. In a now-infamous case at the Zhuhai Ruiiin Electronics Company in Guangdong, 120 employees complained when the South Korean manager told them to kneel because they had not filed out for their restbreak in an orderly way. Twelve remain here to survive."

refused and were dismissed. Last year the Zhuhai Labour Supervisory Committee ordered the manager to apologise. is taking on government officials. At Hongqiao, a stall-

holder selling stationery said: "I can hardly make any profit with these high taxes and fees." He recalled the strike. "All the business people here came to their places, sat and refused to sell goods. Some tried to get back their deposits and leave here but the officials from the Tax Bureau refused and threatened to confiscate our goods. In the end, the government succeeded in persuading some businessmen who own larger places to go on trading. So the strike collapsed and we have to

# Italy's UN proposals upset Britain

**DAVID USBORNE** New York

Italy has enraged Britain and France by suggesting that they should envisage surrendering their permanent seats in the United Nations Security Council in favour of a single seat for the European Union.

The proposal for the eventual elimination of the British and French seats was floated last week by the Italian ambassador to the UN, Francesco Fulci, as part of a continuing debate within the organisation about the expansion of the Council to

attempting to block a widely backed plan to grant two new permanent seats, in addition to the five already existing, to Germany and Japan. Among supporters of that option are the United States, France and Britain.

The manoeuvring by Italy threatens to trigger a diplomatic fracas within the EU, which would be made all the more embarrassing by virtue of Italy's current occupancy of the EU's rotating six-month presidency. Everyone is within their rights to express their own views but Italy must recognise

sensitive ground where at least three of its European partners are concerned," one British source noted. "They must know that this is a very unfriendly act

The suspicion of other EU diplomats is that Italy's prime concern is to prevent Germany from gaining a permanent seat.
"What they are saying about a single European seat is motivated primarily by an anti-German move. They want to prevent German membership," one remarked.

Mr Fulci made plain his views during a lunch with journalists

seat inside the [Security] Council with the whole EU talking through it," he said. "If we are going to be serious about creating a federal state we should speak with one voice in the Council"

Last Friday the ambassador repeated his position at a closed meeting of the UN committee that is studying reform of the Council. "Italy hopes that both at the UN and in other contexts, the European Union can sooner or later speak with a single voice, including that of the current permanent members", he said. He went on: "Granting

permanent seats only to Germany and Japan, 'the quick fix' ties". It makes no mention of a unified Council seat, even over - as some suggest - is unacceptable since it would further the long term. increase the already prepon-derant weight of rich and in-dustrialised countries in the Stephen Gomersall, Britain's

deputy ambassador in New York, insisted: "We do not en-Council, and thus in the whole visage any change in the status of the existing members of the The issue of a single Euro-Security Council." He said that pean seat in New York first surthose members were committed faced several years ago, but Britain and France had thought to finding a common European view where possible, it buried by the 1992 Maastricht but not at the expense of treaty which says only that the

ential national interests. A spokesman for France also referred to the Maastricht treaty, "He | Ambassador Fulci] can express a personal view,

but at this time we would regard it as wishful thinking," he said. Proposals for the inclusion of

Germany and Japan as permanent members also envisage three more non-permanent seats to be filled by rotation, bringing the total membership of the Council to 20, compared with 15 today. Italy wants no new permanent members but proposes retaining the existing 10 non-permanent slots and adding an additional tier of 10 new non-permanent seats to be filled also by rotation from a list of prominent regional powers. That would create a Council of

Serb

genera

spurns

tribunal

The Hagne (Reuter) — Djord-je Djukic, a Bosnian Serb Gen-eral, pleaded not guilty yesterday to war crimes charges

relating to the 43-month siege of Sarajevo and said he had

done nothing to warranted an appearance before the tribunal.

for former Yugoslavia charged

General Djukic with assisting in the shelling of the Bosnian capital during the siege from May 1992 to December 1995 in which more than 10,000 people

Serb army, was arrested by

Bosnian government police on 30 January with a Bosnian Serb colonel, Aleksa Krsmanovic.

General Djukic told the chamber he understood the

indictment which accused him

of crimes against humanity, but

his lawyer called the proceed-ings "a kind of judicial and

General Djukic, a senior aide to the Bosnian Serb military

commander, General Ratko

Mladic, also been indicted by

the tribunal, has refused to

answer prosecutors' questions. "It's not known whether I'm

being tried in front of the

tribunal in The Hague or the

court in Sarajevo, or in front of

both," he said.

The tribunal, set up by the
Security Council in 1993, is the

first international body to pros-

ecute war crimes since the

trials at Nuremberg and Tokyo after the Second World War.

Meanwhile, a UN spokesman

are continuing to evict Muslims

and Croats from their homes in

the northern city of Banja Luka,

in spite of assurances from

Serb police that "ethnic cleans-

ing would end.
We are receiving reports

on a daily basis that people are

being forced to leave their homes," said Alexander Ivanko.

a spokesman for the interna-

be dealt with appropriately by

the local authornies who we understand have enough police forces to stop the evictions."

"This is a disprace and should

tional Police Task Force.

legal nonsense'

are believed to have died. General Djukic, a senior logistics officer in the Bosnian

The UN criminal tribunal

#### IN BRIEF

#### Britain 'surprised' at Falklands row

London — The Foreign Office played down reports of in-creased tension with Argentina over fishing rights around the Falklands after a Royal Navy warship was sent to patrol the area for unlicensed trawlers. "We're rather surprised about the way it's being built up into a big confrontation," a spokesman said.

Argentina's foreign minis-ter, Gudo Di Tella, said on Sunday it would be inappropriate for President Carlos Menem to go ahead with a proposed visit to Britain this year unless the fishing dispute was resolved. Argentine reports said British ships patrolling off South Georgia had forced an Argentine fishing to boat to pay \$110,000 for a fishing licence. Reuter

#### Hepburn scare

New York — Katherine Hep-burn has been seriously ill with pneumonia and at one point had not been expected to live. The New York Daily News reported the 88-year-old actress had now been discharged from hospital and was resting comfortably at her Connecticut

#### School siege arrest

Marseille — Police said they overpowered a drug addict armed with a shotgun who took children hostage at a nursery school. The man, 29, said to be an Aids patient, was detained after holding the children and foor adults including a teacher and a caretaker.

#### Howard's way

Sydney — Australia's conservative prime minister-elect, John Howard, promised sweeping economic and labour reforms. humble government and a continued push into Asia at his first news conference since his landslide election win on Saturday. Financial markets surged as investors wagered on tighter fiscal policy and aggressive market reforms. Remer

#### Benin poll battie

Cotonou — The former Marxist military leader Mathieu Kerekou took an early lead in Benin's second multi-party presidential poll, comfortably shead of President Nicephore Soglo, bidding for a second five-year term.

#### Denktash 'stable'

Ankara — The Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash arrived on a flight for medical tests after suffering a heart attack on sunday night. He was reported to be in stable condition at the Ibni Sina hospital.

#### ALATIYE MARK Pensioner power

Brussels - The number of Europeans over 60 will jump by almost half by 2025, the European Commission reported. Overall population figures are expected to stay stable and could fall slightly if the number of migrant workers is "moderated" and recent fertility rates continue.

Communist to stand Moscow - The Russian Communist Party leader, Gennady Zyuganov, was officially registered for the 16 June election battle against President Boris Yeltsin. Mr Zyuganov, who leads in opinion polls, presented a petition of 1.7 million signatures supporting his candidacy - 700,000 more than

#### Uganda clashes

required by law.

Kampala — The Ugandan army said that 88 people were killed in a battle with rebels last week and a new military offensive was under way in the north of the country. of the country.

#### Car seizure legal

Washington — The Supreme Court ruled against a woman who protested when authorities seized a car owned by her and her husband after he had sex in it with a prostitute. She argued that the confiscation under a Michigan nuisance law was an unconstitutional taking of her property. Reuter

#### Shear joy for Scots

Wellington — New Zealand's top sheep shearers were de-feated by two Scotsmen who stole the world team title for the first time. Sheep outnumber humans by about 15 to one in New Zealand, host nation to the Golden Shears championships. Tom Wilson and George Bayne won the crown when the New Zealander team was disqualified for accidentally cutting their in Sarajevo said Bosnian Serbs | sheep.

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# Rifkind will push for EU veto to stay

**ANDREW MARSHALL** 

Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, will today unveil details of how Britain wants Europe to deal with the rest of the world, giving the first indications of the stance that Britain will take when the EU rewrites the Maastricht treaty.

Speaking to the French International Relations Institute. IFRI, in Paris. Mr Rifkind will make what the Foreign Office is billing as a major foreign-pol-icy speech. He will lay out Britain's approach to the Common Foreign and Security Policy, an initiative introduced in the Maastricht treaty whereby the EU tries to co-ordinate and combine the foreign policies of member states.

The 15 EU states will meet in Turin later this month to be-Conference, a series of meetings that will rewrite the Maastricht treaty. The Government is preparing a White Paper on its own approach, to be published next week. Mr Rilkind's speech will spell out some of its contents, and underline Britain's general approach that foreign policy should remain a matter for individual sovereign states, and that states should retain their

to be directed at efforts by federalist EU nations and the European Commission to force the pace towards a European government. Mr Rifkind will stress that there is no case for shifting power to Brussels from foreign ministries in national capitals. But he is likely to concede that there will be moves towards a

European foreign policy.
The Foreign Secretary is making the speech in Paris partly because France shares some of Britain's reservations over the federalist impulses of its European partners. While in Paris, Mr Rifkind will see - as well as the Prime Minister. Alain Juppé - Philippe Séguin, the Speaker of the French National Assembly. Mr Seguin, who led France's anti-Maastricht campaign during the 1992 gin the Inter-Governmental referendum, will doubtless lend

support to Britain's scepticism. The central issue that Mr Rifkind will have to deal with is what the French and Germans call "constructive abstention" giving individual states the right to object to a policy move, but not the ability to block it. France and Germany believe that it is essential to have a mechanism of this type so that the EU can forge ahead even if Britain or



United Nations system.

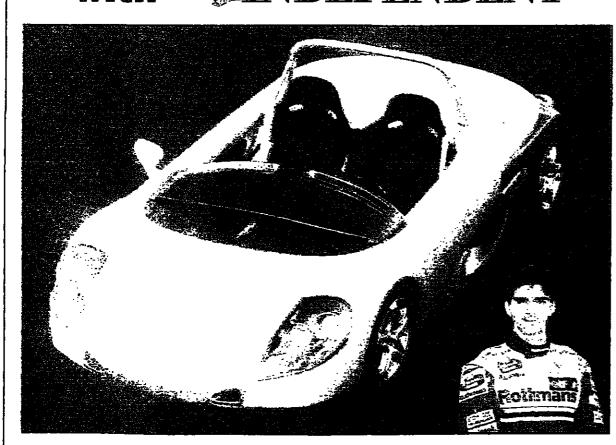
existing permanent members of the Council should "ensure the

defence of the positions and the

Pilgrims' progress: A train all but disappears under its passengers as Bangladeshi Muslims travel to Tongi, north of Dhaka, to attend the final prayers of Biswa litema, an annual three-day Islamic congregation which draws some 700,000 devotees from 80 countries. Photograph: Reuter

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# Spanish right falls short of majority in poll

ELIZABETH NASH

Spain's conservative Popular Party, the victor in Sunday's general elections, admitted yesterday that it would be unable to govern alone, and started to discuss prospects for co-operation with other political forces.

The PP leader, Jose Maria Aznar, said he would have liked more than the 156 seats his party won, 20 short of an absolute majority and only 15 more than the vanquished Socialists. He added that he had opened a dialogue with other parties with a view to making pacts.

As politicians adjusted to the

new and inconclusive balance of forces, Eta Basque separatists struck again. A car bomb in the northern city of Irun killed a Basque policeman yesterday morning. The victim, Ramon Doral, was described in Eta's newspaper Egin as an organiser of anti-Eta operations.

A resurgence of Eta terror had been feared in the wake of a PP victory, as the party had promised a hard line against Basque separatism.

Mr Aznar, already beginning to look statesmanlike, said he was proud of the PP's achievement: "We have succeeded in converting the PP into the leading party of Spain and a great party of the centre." But he added: "I know that the situation is very difficult, following the decision of Spaniards that we respect, and the problems are difficult to resolve."

government for the next four ears and promised: "We will talk to everyone without exception." He did not specify what kind of co-operation he had in mind, and did not ruled out either a formal coalition or temporary ad hoc deals.

Mr Aznar is under pressure to act swiftly to steady the nerves of the business community, which was disappointed that the party in which it had invested great hopes would not be able to govern without support. Spain's stock exchange suffered the second largest fall in history yesterday. The peseta also fell. Mr Aznar recognised the potentially disastrous economic consequences of a hung parliament.

Obvious candidates for a partnership with Mr Azuar are the nationalist Catalan Convergence and Union party. led by Jordi Pujol, and the conservative Basque Nationalist Party, led by Xabier Arzalluz. These two seasoned old warhorses, veterans of Franco's jails and schooled in the art of screwing benefits from Madrid, are rearing and plung-ing as they wait for Mr Aznar's

outstretched hand. Neither is making the first move. Mr Pujol's party won 16 seats, one fewer than in the last parliament when he supported Mr Gonzalez for more than two years, but a good showing against a PP offensive in Catalonia. Mr Pujol observed yesterday that the PP with its

He pledged to form a stable centralist españolista convic-overnment for the next four tions, struck fear into the hearts of many Catalans. His party said that it was not disposed to support Mr Aznar as the Prime The CIU's coolness towards

the PP is reciprocated. But Mr Aznar may have to eat his pre-election remarks that Catalans were only interested in what they could grasp from Madrid. It was a sign of the times that the habitual victory chorus among PP supporters, of "Pujol, dwarf, learn to speak Spanish", was hushed up by party officials on Sunday night. Without Mr Pujol, Mr Aznar's government is doomed.

The party of Mr Arzailuz, an austere former Jesuit priest, held its five MPs against a PP upsurge in the Basque Country. He has also been riled by Mr Aznar's campaign comment that his 100-year-old party should learn to be democratic before being nationalist. "We are ready to share in the

tasks of government," Mr Arzalluz-said, "but it is up to Mr Aznar to offer conditions for coalition or co-operation."

The outgoing Prime Minister, Felipe Gonzalez, 54 today, has shed 10 years in 24 hours and was smiling as he conceded defeat. Freed from the burden of a government dying on its feet and with his party intact. he seems to relish the prospect of moving into his own home for the first time in 13 years and laying into the new government as



On a roll: Bob Dole with his wife, Elizabeth, and Governor David Beasley (left) after winning the South Carolina primary

# Dole shapes up for knock-out blow

**RUPERT CORNWELL** Washington

Bob Dole, the Republicans' rediscovered front-runner, has a chance today of clinching, in practice if not in statistical certainty, the party's 1996 presidential nomination with a crushing show of strength in eight primaries scattered across New England, the South and the Rocky Mountain state of

In all, 226 delegates are at stake, including 42 in Georgia, 37 in Massachusetts and 27 in Colorado - only a modest frac-tion of the 996 needed for outright victory at the San Diego convention. But a sweep or near-sweep by Mr Dole, immediately after his surprisingy clear-cut triumph in South Carolina at the weekend, would create a mood of "bandwagon" inevitability around his candidacy that would surely sweep him to final victory.

In all eight states (and in New York, which votes on Thursday) polls put the Senate majority leader ahead, albeit by varying margins. The closest battles could come in Georgia, where the conservative populist Pat Buchanan is making a sustained effort, and in Colorado and Maine, traditionally quirky states where Steve Forbes, the multi-millionaire publisher.

could do well. The wind, though, is unarguably in Mr Dole's sails, speeded by an endorsement vesterday from Newt Gingrich, the House Speaker, as he cast an early absentee ballot in his home state of Georgia, and by predictions from a host of party notables, including Mr Dole's former rival for the nomination, the Texas Senator Phil Gramm, that the race was all but over.

PRESIDENTIAL

In this particular political year of course, bold words have eaten, but the entire Dole campaign seems suddenly to have acquired a surer touch. His opponents meanwhile make scant neadway. An increasingly strident Mr Buchanan seems to have hit a ceiling of support between 25 to 30 per cent while barring a Georgia miracle - the campaign of the former Ten-nessee governor Lamar Alexan-

der looks to be on its last legs. Perhaps wisely, too, Mr Dole avoided a candidates' television debate in Atlanta on Sunday evening. When he did the same thing in Arizona a week ago, the

tactic backfired, but this time Messrs Buchanan, Alexander and Forbes mostly squabbled among themselves, leaving the biggest headlines to be captured by the uninvited fringe candidate Alan Keves, arrested and handcuffed by police as he attempted to force his way into had a habit of being instantly the room where the debate was being held.

For Mr Dole, the gathering sense of inevitability has not come a moment too soon. Front-runner he may be, but within a week or so he will hit the \$37m (£24.6m) primary spending ceiling for candidates like him who accept federal matching funds. Not that donations are not rolling in - simply that they cannot be spent on the advertising blitzes essential in these multi-primary weeks where it is physically impossible to campaign seriously in person

Whatever it leaves in terms of quality, 1996 has already smashed all financial records The Republican candidates have spent \$140m, led by Mr Dole and Mr Forbes with \$30m or more apiece, and \$20m by Mr Gramm, who withdrew after the lowa caucuses three weeks ago. At the same stage in 1992, Mr Buchanan and the then president, George Bush, had spent a combined \$23m.

Yesterday, meanwhile, Mr Dole got a 14-delegate boost from Puerto Rico, where he won a landslide victory over Mr Buchanan. Although it is not formally part of the US and does not vote in presidential elections, it does send delegates to the conventions. Its government had urged inhabitants to reject Mr Buchanan velebrated for referring to Hispanic immigrants to the US as "truckloads of Joses".

PACKARD

# President's daughter in running

Tehran (Reuter) - The daugh-ter of President Ali Akbar male chauvinist culture on the Hashemi Rafsanjani of Iran is one hand and on the other the running for parliament in Friday's election with a campaign backing a bigger role for women in politics, society and sport. Only nine of the 270 deputies lected to the Mailis in 1992 are

Faezeh Hashemi, a political scientist, said yesterday: "Be-

urn.

MITTEL

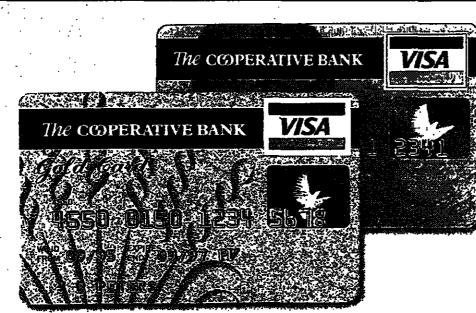
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cause of the domination of Iran's Islamic state system. fact that Islamic rules were not applied before the revolution. few women were altracted to social and political activity." She is one of 187 women

proved by a Guardian Council which has choosed them all for their Islamic faith and belief in

Before the 1979 revolution. men and women mixed in social and sports activities. "That was incompatible with Islam and considered improper," said Ms Hashemi, a sportswoman and founder and head of the Islamic Countries' Women's Sports Solidarity Council, who organised the first games for Muslim



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Jacobo

Majluta

Jacobo Mailuta was one of the

generation of politicians in the

Dominican Republic whose am-

bition was continually fliwarted

by the country's labyrinthine

power struggles and explosive

sectarianism. He was elected

Vice-President in 1978 and

served as President for 42 days

in 1982, replacing the disgraced

Antonio Guzmán who had

committed spicide, but he nev-

er again held the highest office

Born in 1934 into a merchant

family of Middle Eastern origin,

Majluta studied finance at San-

to Domingo University before

working as an accountant in the

banking and state sectors. He

joined the Dominican Revolu-

tionary Party (PRD) in 1961, in

the wake of the dictator Leoni-

des Trujillo's assassination, and

rose quickly, becoming the

youngest minister in Juan

Bosch's short-lived government

of 1963. When it was over-

thrown by a military coup lat-

er that year, Mailuta went into

exile, returning to rebuild his po-

litical career and winning the

PRD's vice-presidential nomi-

nation for the 1978 elections.
In power, Mailuta was out of sympathy with the PRD's more

which he so openly craved.

Today marks the diamond jubilee of the first flight of the immortal Supermarine Spitfire, from Eastleigh aerodrome. Southampton. Weather permitting, one of the 46 surviving airworthy Spitfires (from the to-tal of 22,759 built) will commemorate that first flight before invited guests and former members of the Spitfire team. Jeffrey Quill, the second man to fly the aircraft (after Vickers' chief test pilot. "Mutt" Summers). who took over as chief test pilot and later test-flew every mark of Spitfire, and whose name will for ever be linked with R.J. Mitchell's masterpiece. died last month. As President of the Spitfire Society, which is closely involved with the celebrations, Quill had been

looking forward to the event. Quill was born at Littlehampton in Sussex in 1913, the youngest of five children. In 1926 he began his secondary education at Lancing College, which overlooks Shoreham aerodrome. The constant aerial activity overhead quickened the already air-minded Quill's resolve to take a non-commissioned career in the Royal Air Force long before he left Lancing in 1931. At 18<sup>12</sup> Quill was accepted

into the RAF as an Acting Pi-lot Officer. He learned to fly on Avro Tutor biplanes and went solo in the remarkably short time of 5 hours 20 minutes (9) norm). He graduated on to Siskin IIIA advanced trainers, and his flying ability was assessed as "exceptional". In September 1932 he joined No 17 the period. Squadron RAF at Upavon, where he began flying Bristol Bulldog fighters. He flew as often as possible in order to familiarise himself with the aeroplane, practising aerobaties and flying in cloud. He

Unless aerobatics were practised assiduously to the point where one was familiar with every conceivable com-bination of speed and altitude of

which the aircraft was capable, one was not master of the aeroplane. Therefore a day would come when charge instead of the pilot, and that would be the last day. I never had cause to modify that view, and I kept my aerobatics well houed to the day of my last flight as a pilot.

This discipline was to stand Quill in good stead for his future career as a test pilot.
While still at Lancing Quill had attended the famous RAF

Display at Hendon, never perhaps dreaming that he would soon participate. He did so on 24 June 1933, taking part in a mock bombing attack.

Quill's aptitude and penchant for flying in all weathers suited his posting to the Mete-

orological Flight at Duxford. There. flying open-cockpit Siskins, the unit made twice-daily scheduled flights (except on Sundays) up to 25,000ft to collect data for weather reports. After Quill took command of the flight in November 1934 he and his team managed to fly every "slot" for a whole year, regardless of "unflyable" weather, without missing a flight. For this achievement Quill was awarded the Air Force Cross. On one occasion, when letting down through cloud, his Siskin hit the ground very hard but in perfect landing attitude, bounced over a hedge and overturned, pushing Quill's head forward on to the cockpit coaming (its raised border). hours being regarded as the Had he not already received a broken nose from a boxing accident he would have qualified for the "Siskin nose" - a characteristic of many pilots of

> In January 1936 Quill joined Vickers (Aviation) Ltd as assistant to its chief test pilot, "Mutt" Summers. His initial task was the testing of the Wellesley bomber, and it was while flying a production Well-esley that Quili had a narrow escape. The 74ft 7in-span bomber refused to recover from a spin and at 3,000ft Quill decided to

spiralling bomber seemed intent on slicing the pilot with its wings; but he landed safely not far from the Kingston bypass. Quill's long association with the Spitfire began in earnest

when he made his first flight in the prototype on 26 March 1936. There was some rivalry with Hawker, whose Hurricane had first flown four months earlier and Quill's priority was to get the Spitfire cleared for ac-ceptance by the RAF. A thoroughbred from the start, the Spitfire nevertheless needed a great deal of work before it was deemed safe for young RAF pilots to fly, and did not enter squadron service until July 1938. However, developed through many marks and variants, the Spitfire remained a first-line fighter throughout the war. During this entire period Quill was in charge of development and production flying, a job that he took very seriously - so seriously that he felt he must obtain first-hand combat experience. During August-September 1940 he was temporarily released to join No 63 Squadron at RAF Hornchurch, privately hoping that it would be a permanent appointment. On 16 August he shot down an Me 109 and two days later he shared a victory over Heinkel He 111. His combat days were short-lived, but they made Quill all the more determined to make the Spitfire an even

better fighting machine. In 1942 the Luftwaffe's Focke Wulf Fw190 was gaining the edge over Allied fighters, and it was an urgent priority to capture an example. For a while Quill was on standby to be tak-en to France in order to hijack a Fw190 back to England. Fortunately an example was delivered to the RAF on a plate in the meantime, when a disorientated German pilot landed at

a Welsh airfield by mistake. With the introduction of the navalised Spitfire, the Fleet Air Arm suffered enormous 5,000 flying hours in nearly 100 losses through deck-landing ac-

cidents. In the space of three days one force of 106 Seafires was reduced to 64 serviceable aircraft: something had to be done. Quill duly spent five months with the Navy, during which time he made 75 deck landings. The distinguished naval test pilot Capt Eric "Winkle" Brown later wrote, "[Quill] was an inspired choice, as he had the analytical mind of a superb test pilot trained to find answers to any flight problem." Equally importantly, he could explain testing problems to his team in language which everyone could understand.

By the end of the war Quill had personally test flown all 50odd variants of Spitfire and Seafire. The rapid increase in performance, armament and all-up weight produced a never-ending stream of design changes, most of which tended to be detrimental to handling qualities and affected the Spit-fire's aesthetics. But, as Quill remarked, "We were trying to produce the most effective flyng machine, not the most elegant flying machine." His personal favourite mark, from a pure flying point of view, was the Spittire VIII, with standard wings.

Quill continued as chief test

pilot after the war, when Vick-

ers - ever on the cutting edge of development - produced Britain's third jet aircraft, the Attacker. On 27 July 1946, Quill made the first flight, from Boscombe Down, and continued to undertake the testing until, one day the following June, he passed out at about 40,000ft. Fortunately he recovered at about 10,000ft in time to land safely. Quill had been flying continually for 16 years, often at high altitude and without oxygen; he was tired and unwell and he knew that his career as a test pilot was over. He handed the reigns to Mike Lithgow and prepared himself to fly a desk. He had logged more than



Quill at the controls of a Spitfire. He was only the second man to fly the aircraft

Ouill continued to fly, delivering Spitfires 22s to Cairo and Attackers to the Royal Pakistan Air Force. For many years he kept his hand in with the Spit-fire, flying a Mk V at airshows, his aerobatic displays indicating that the master had not lost his touch. His last flight in a Spir-fire was made on 16 June 1960, 30 years after his first flight in the prototype. Afterwards he re-called, "As I climbed out of the cockpit, I had that feeling of sad-ness of bidding farewell to an

old friend." The desk flying began in 1948, with Vickers-Armstrong. After the formation of the British Aircraft Corporation Quill became involved with the Jaguar programme from its inception and became director of the Anglo-French company Sepecat. He was in at the start of the tri-national Multi-Role

Combat Aircraft (Tornado) programme in 1969 and became Director of Marketing in Panavia until retiring in 1978.

Outside flying, Quill's interests extended to sailing and powerboat racing. In 1962 he and his friend Lt-Cdr Don Robertson, a former test pilot with Supermarine, won the Daily Express offshore powerboat race in Tramontana, a wooden Vosper-built craft powered by two Italian 37-litre engines, The following year the pair finished third in Tramontana II.

In 1983 Quill published his excellent and absorbing book Spufire: a test pilot's story, dedicated to the pilots who flew and fought in the Spitfire. His second book, Birth of a Legend: the Spitfire, co-written with Sebas-tian Cox, was published in 1986. Quill was passionately inter-ested in English literature, be-February 1996.

lieving the English language to be "the greatest medium of human communication". Shortly before his death he had almost completed an anthology of quotations, mostly from English and Scottish writers, entitled Other Men's Thoughts.

Jeffrey Quill was a modest, conscientious and talented man, admired, respected and liked by those fortunate enough to know him. A cheerful man with a sense of humour, he was an inspiration to those who worked with him and a hero to thousands who watched his career from the touchline.

. Richard Riding Jeffrey Kindersley Quill, aviator: born Littlehampton, Sussex 1 February 1913, married three times (three daughters); died Andreas, Isle of Man 20 radical social-democratic wing.
As head of Corde, one of the large-state-sector companies, he was also allegedly involved in corruption, although charges were never proven. His real concern, however, was to beat off the challenge of rival caudillos

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or strongmen within the PRD, and this struggle dominated the rest of his career. After Guzmán's suicide, Mailuta hoped to win the PRD's presidential nomination, but lost out to Jorge Antonio Blanco. When Blanco won the 1982 elections, Majluta became president of the senate, using his position to side with the oppo-sition and block his rival's policy programme. As Blanco's administration gradually slid into bankruptcy and scandal, Majluta again aimed for the PRD's nomination. This time, however, he faced the formidable Jose Francisco Peña Gómez, and open war broke out between the two men's fac-

outs, Mailuta finally grabbed the nomination for 1986. Despite his considerable political skills, Majluta was no 🚜 match in the elections that year for Joaquín Balaguer, the grand old man of Dominican politics. Balaguer defeated Mailuta by a narrow margin to return to the presidency at the age of 78. The brutal in-fighting which had won Majluta the PRD ticket had also alienated a large section of the party, and many of

tions. After several rival supporters were killed in shoot-

their own candidate. Mailuta did not enhance his standing by claiming victory as soon as voting ended and by demanding a rerun of the election. In the end a series of meetings with emissaries from the military and Church - the country's real power-brokers - forced

him to accept defeat. In 1987 Majluta was expelled from the PRD as Peña Gómez reasserted his influence, but an electoral court ruled the move illegal. In 1989 he left to form his own Independent Revolutionary Party (PRI), an organisation geared specifically towards his own electoral aspirations. The PRI never gained genuine popular support, but the 7 per cent it won in the 1990 election was enough to under-

mine Peña Gómez's chances. Ironically, in the weeks before his death, Majluta had sought a rapprochement with his old rival and had even endorsed Peña Gómez's candidature for the forthcoming May elections. It was an uncharacteristic gesture on the part of a hard-nosed, ued personal power far higher than party demonstrates than party democracy.

James Ferguson Jacobo Majluta Azar, politician: born 9 October 1934; Vice-Pres-

82, President, 1982; married Ana Elisa Villanueva (one daughier); died Tampa, Florida 2 March

ident, Dominican Republic 1978-

# **Professor Sir James Sutherland**

James Sutherland was not only one of the century's foremost 18th-century scholars but a link with the heroic days of English as a university discipline.

Born in 1900 in Aberdeen, he was educated at Aberdeen Grammar School and University before going to Merton College, Oxford, where he was a pupil of David Nichol Smith who had himself been taught by George Saintsbury in Edinburgh. The first volume of cism and Literary Taste had been published in 1900. Nichol Smith had also been a colleague of Sir Walter Raleigh, first holder of the Chair of English established in Oxford in 1904. The succession and the developments to which James Sutherland belonged could hardly be more clearly marked than by these coincidences.

In an inaugural lecture as Lord Northeliffe Professor of Modern English Literature, criticism should be a humane "The English Critic", delivered at University College London in 1952. Sutherland firmly stated his own position at a time when he saw a present danger that criticism was no longer content to be, in Pope's phrase, "the demonstrates that this aim

Muse's handmaid", but aspired to become an independent activity. He found the English critical tradition exemplified in qualities characteristic of the work of four writers: the "urhanity" and "sedate cheerfulness" of Dryden's essays; the independence, openness and interest in literary biography of Johnson; the personal immediacy of Hazlitt and the moral earnestness of F.R. Leavis, the intensive analyses of Cleanth Brooks's The Well Wrought Urn (1947), and the systematic theorising of Wellek and Warren's The Theory of Literature (1949), this was a bold

declaration of faith, likely to lead, as it did in some quarters. to charges of dilettantism. Sutherland knew that he was being unfashionable but he never wavered in his belief that and social activity, addressed to but of men and women who lived in the world. His work,

could be achieved without the slightest compromise of academic integrity. Literature for him was a very

important part, but only a part, of life itself and it is characteristic that his first major book, Defoe (1937), dealt with a man who had been deeply engaged with manufacturing, politics, and journalism before, at the age of 59, he wrote Robinson connoisseurship of George Crusoe, a great popular work. Saintsbury. In 1952, when the Sutherland's biography was plosion of interest in Defoe that has occurred in recent years and he himself returned to the subject with Daniel Defoe: a critical study (1971). It is typical too that Suther-

land's contribution to the great "Twickenham" edition of Pope was The Dunciad, a satirical epic which reaches out in every couplet to the minutiae of contemporary cultural and political life. Sutherland's commentary will always be indispensable to any reader struggling to teenth Century Poetry (1948). maintain his foothold in this magnificent but sometimes rebarbative poem.

The work on Defoe and available in more than 20 books, Pope, together with the magisterial English Literature of the



Sutherland: formidable

Later Seventeenth Century (1969), is at the centre of Sutherland's achievement. But he ranged widely and excelled in work which explained the conventions and background necessary to literary appreciation, notably A Preface to Eigh-

As a lecturer he was always meticulously prepared, infor-mative, lucid, mindful of the needs of his audience and possessing, as he said of Hazlitt,

his enjoyment and stimulating his readers", rousing their appetite. When, as a student, I first met him in 1949, I was impressed by his spare, elegant, well-dressed and somewhat formidable figure. And of course he was formidable, but never unapproachable, and he had a laconic and sometimes selfdeprecating humour that was mmensely appealing.

Sutherland was in demand as n the United States where he was well known. Between 1947 and 1970 he held visiting professorships at Harvard, Indiana, the University of California, Los Anand was Clark Library Fellow at In the later part of his career

became an FBA in 1953 and was awarded honorary doctorates at the universities of Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Liège. He was invited to give several distinguished lecture series, including the Alexander Lectures in Toronto (On English Prose, 1957) and the Clark Lectures in Cambridge (English Satire, 1958). He was knighted in 1992.

he received many bonours. He

But his laurels were not for resting on. As late as 1986 he puplished The Restoration Newspaper and its Development, a complex and fascinating in-terweaving of historical information with a study of how news was gathered and presented by rival groups at a time when it was the constant aim of government to control and manipulate the supply of information. Work on such fugitive materia supervisor of postgraduate stu- al necessarily demands a grasp course to badly printed texts, often available only on microfilm. To produce such a study in one's eighties and to do so with such triumphant success is geles, Pittsburgh and New York an astonishing accomplishment. But the final publication, coming as recently as 1992, was an incisive attribution study on Swift, contributed with the greatest kindness and generosity to a festschrift for an old

> James Sutherland's life had a shape and a unity that it is wonderfully satisfying to con-template. He was fond of quoting Hazlitt's remark that his function was "to feel what is good and give reasons for the faith that is in me". Sutherland

he will be remembered with great affection and gratifude by former students and colleagues. But he will be remembered also by many thousands of people who have little academic interest in literature but who enjoy and keep returning to The Oxford Book of English Talk (1953) and The Oxford Book of Literary Anecdotes (1975) which he compiled and which continue to have great success in the John Chalker

did this through a long life and

James Runcieman Sutherland. English scholar and teacher: born Aberdeen 26 April 1900; Se-nior Lecturer, University College London 1930-36; Professor of English Literature, Birkbeck College 1936-44; Editor, Review of English Studies 1940-47; Professor of English Language and Literature, Queen Mary College 1944-51; Lord Northcliffe Pro-fessor of Modern English Literature, University College London 1951-67 (Emericus); FBA 1953; Public Orator, London Univer-sity 1957-62; Kt 1992; married 1931 Helen Dircks (died 1975), 1977 Mrs Eve Betts; died Oxford 24 February 1996.

# Les Baxter

shy. "I want to be innovative." he told Joe Smith for the book Off the Record. "Perhaps I was the most innovative person in our business. I don't know."

A musician-singer-composerproducer-conductor-arranger. Baxter was a concert pianist at the age of five. When rock 'n' roll was at its height, he astonished the music business with Voice of the Atabay (1950), a Number One album of Aztec songs, sung by Yma Sumac, He wrote music for theme parks. Torme's vocal group, the Mel-For the horror film *Frogs* (1971) Tones. They sang with Torme on

Nobody ever called Les Baxter he created a background score consisting entirely of synthesised frog sounds. When the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Science asked him who had collaborated with him on the score,

he replied "The frogs". After musical studies at Detroit University, Baxter attended Pepperdine College in Los Angeles. There he began play-ing tenor sax, and was often allowed to sit in and accompany Billie Holiday, In 1945 he left Freddie Slack's band to join Mel

film Let's Go Steady (1945), and hand.

Shortly after signing a long-term contract with Capitol Records, Baxter arranged and conducted two of Nat "King" Cole's greatest hits: "Mona Lisa" (1950) and "Too Young" (1951). He reached the Top 10 with his instrumental singles of

Balcarres, premier Earl of Scotland.

various radio shows. in the "B" recording other people's music and began writing his own oron record with the Artie Shaw chestral LPs, albums bearing such globe-trotting titles as Tamboo!, A Day in Rome, Fiesta Brava and Sunshine at Kowloon. Another of his albums, Le Sacre du Savage, included "Quiet Village", a hit for the Martin Denny Orchestra in

Baxter scored over 100 films,

and the Pendulum (1961). Tales accepted such a wide variety of of Terror, The Premature Burial (both 1963) and The Dunwich Horror (1970). He was particularly proud of his lively score for The Master of the World (1961), a low-budget Jules Verne romp, notorious for its blatant use of stock footage; what purported to be an aerial view of 19thcentury London was a shot

from Olivier's Henry V.

Adrian and Eubulus, St Eusebius of

Cremona, St Gerasimus, St John

Joseph of the Cross, St Kieran of

Saighir, St Phocas of Antioch, St Pi-

Highgate Literary and Scientific In-

stitution, London N6: Will Hutton,

"The State We're In: the political economy in the mid-90s", 7.45pm.

Exeter University (Boundy Memo-

rial Lecture): Mr Terence Copley, "The Butler's Dream: the 1944

Education Act and religious educa-

Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, London EC1: Professor Peter

Hennessy, "Shadow and Substance:

premiership for the 21st century",

ran and St Virgil of Arles.

Lectures

tion", 5.15<del>pm</del>.

work. "Once I made the mistake of turning down composing the ballet Fancy Free for Jerome Robbins," he replied. "I recommended Leonard Bernstein. It was the first great success of his career, and since then I've never turned down anything!" Diek Vosburgh

Les Baxter, conductor, compos-"April in Portugal" (1953), "The more than half of them for the economy-obsessed American many television programmes, and "The Poor People of Paris" (1956). Eventually he tired of the more than half of them for the economy-obsessed American many television programmes, and wrote a series of shows for a marine theme park. In 1981 (1956). Eventually he tired of the more than half of them for the economy-obsessed American many television programmes, and wrote a series of shows for a marine theme park. In 1981 (1956). Eventually he tired of the more than half of them for the economy-obsessed American many television programmes, and wrote a series of shows for a marine theme park. In 1981 (1956). Eventually he tired of the more than half of them for the economy-obsessed American many television programmes, and wrote a series of shows for a marine theme park. In 1981 (1956). Eventually he tired of the more than half of them for the economy-obsessed American many television programmes, and wrote a series of shows for a marine theme park. In 1981 (1956). Eventually he tired of the more than half of them for the economy-obsessed American many television programmes, and wrote a series of shows for a marine theme park. In 1981 (1956). Eventually he tired of the more than half of them for the economy-obsessed American many television programmes, and wrote a series of shows for a marine theme park. In 1981 (1956). Eventually he tired of the more than half of them for the economy-obsessed American many television programmes, and wrote a series of shows for a marine theme park. In 1981 (1956). Eventually he tired of the more than half of them for the economy-obsessed American many television programmes, and wrote a series of shows for a marine theme park. In 1981 (1956). Eventually he tired of the more than half of them for the economy-obsessed American many television programmes, and wrote a series of shows for a marine theme park. In 1981 (1956).



Baxter: music for theme parks Photograph: Aquarius Library

#### Births, Marriages & Deaths

DEATHS

INSLEY: On 1 March 1996, Gentrude Mary Insley, of Bolton Low Houses, Cumbria, Tormerly Northern Area Education Officer for Cumberland O'SULLIVAN: On 1 March 1996, the Rev Dum Benjamin O'Sullivan, age 34 years, monk of Ampleforth Abber Requiem Mass, Thursday 7 March 1496. at 12 noon at Ampleforth

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, In Memoriam) should be sent in writing o the Gazette Editor, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, Lon-don E14 5DL, telephoned to 0171-293 2011 or faxed to 0171-293 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra).

#### Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. M. A. Kiteatt and Senorita N. R. Campos Liste The engagement is announced be-tween Mark, second son of Sir Peter and Lady Kitcatt, of Croydon, Surrey, and Natividad Rosa, only daughter of Senor Marino Campos Boente and Señora María Liste Louzao, of Vigo, Spain.

The Hon O. Montagu and Miss L. Roundell The engagement is announced be-tween Orlando Montagu, son of the Earl and Countess of Sandwich, and Laura, daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Roundell.

#### Birthdays

Lady Elizabeth Basset, Extra Woman of the Bedchamber to Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, 88; The Right Rev Thomas Butler, Bishop of Leicester, 56; Admiral Sir Simon Cas-sels, 68; The Earl of Crawford and

69; Mr Jim Dowd MP, 45; Miss Samantha Eggar, actress, 57; Mr Anthony Hedges, composer, 65; The Most Rev Bruno Heim, former Apostolic Pro-Nuncio, 85; Mr Robin Herbert, chairman, Leopold Joseph Holdings, 62: Mr Richard Hickox, conductor, 48; Mrs Ann Longley, Headmistress, Roedean, 54; Lord Macfarlane of Bearsden, chairman, Macfarlane Group, 70; Miss Elspeth March, actress, 85; Sir Derek Mitchell, former senior civil servant, 74; Miss Elaine Paige, actress and singer, 44; Sir Jack Rumbold, former president, Industrial Tribunals, 76; Mr Dean Stockwell, film actor, 60; Air Marshal Sir Thomas Stonor. defence consultant, 60; Mr Barry Tuckwell, conductor and horn play-er, 65; Mr Des Wilson, Director of Corporate and Public Affairs, BAA

Anniversaries

Births: Gerhardus Mercator (Ger-

Giovanni Battista Tiepolo, painter, 1696; Sir Austen Henry Layard, ar-chaeologist, 1817; William Henry, first Baron Beveridge, of the Beveridge Report on social insurance, 1879; Sir Rex Carey Harrison, actor, 1998. Deaths: Antonio Allegri da Correggio, painter, 1534: Thomas Augustine Arne, composer ("Rule, Britannia") 1778: Flora Macdonakt. Jacobile heroine. 1790; Sergei Sergeyevich Prokofiev, composer, 1953; Joseph Stalin (Iosif Vissarionovich Dzhugashvili), Russian leader, 1953; Anna Akhmatova (Anna Andreyevna Gorenko), poet. 1966; Mohammad Mosaddeq, politician, 1967: Tito Gobbi, baritone, 1984: William Powell, actor, 1984. On this day: the foundation stone of New Coilege Oxford was laid. 1397; soldiers fought civilians at Boston, Massachusetts, in the Boston Massacre, 1770; Covent Garden Theatre, London, was destroyed by fire, 1856; civil disobedience in India ended. 1931; the Nazis made large gains in the German general election, 1933; hard Kremer), cartographer, 1512; the Battle of the Bismarck Sea end-

#### ed, 1943; Winston Churchill made a Canning House speech at Fulton, Missouri, referring to an "Iron Curtain" across Europe, 1946. Today is the Feast Day of Saints

The Earl of Limerick, President of the Councils, Canning House, was the host at a talk given yesterday evening at Canning House, London SW1, giv-en by Mr Kenneth Clarke MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer, about his recent mission to Latin America.

# Royal Over-Seas League

Dr Martin Angel, of the Southampton Oceanographic Centre, was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Royal Over-Seas League's discussion circle held yesterday evening at Over-Seas House, St Jumes's, Lon-don SW1. His subject was "Can the Deep Ocean be Used Safely for Waste Disposal?" Mrs Mairi Raddiff

#### Lord-Lieutenants

The Prime Minister has announced ipm.

RIBA Architecture Centre, London
W1: John Winter, "A Modern Architect in an Old Country", 6.30pm.

that, as a result of the changes in local government organisation, the following arrangements will come into effect on 1 April in the former counties of Avon, Cleveland and | ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

Complies of Avon, Cleveland and Humberside:

AVON: Mr Lsy Tidonesis will become the new Lord-Licuitenant of the new county of Bristot: Sir Jehn Whits, Lord-Licuitenant of Soncerset, will cover the unitary authorities of Barth and North East Someriset and North Someriset as part of the new ceremonial county of Someriset; Mr Henry Elwes, Lord-Licuitenant of Choacastershire, covere the unitary authority of South Gibnocastershire as part of the new ceremonial county of Gloucestershire.

CLEVELAND: Lord Gisborreigh: Lord-Licuitenant of Chevistand, will become Licuitenant of North Yorkshire, when the unitary authorities of Middlesbrough, Radear and Cleveland and Stockton on Res (south of the River Tiess), previously in Cleveland, become part of the new ceremonial county of North Yorkshire; Sh Marcus Worsley will continue as Lord-Licuitenant of the whole of the county of North Yorkshire; Sh Marcus Worsley will continue as Lord-Licuitenant of Dutham, will cover the unitary authority of Hartlepool and Stockton on Tiess (north of the River Tiess) within the new ceremonial county of Dutham.

HUMBERSUDE: Mr Richard Martriott will become the Lord-Licuitenant of the new cerumonial county of Turkshire, covering the unitary authorities of Kingston upon Holl and the East Riding of Yorkshire.

Mas Bridge Cracraft-Eley, as Lord-Lieumenant of Lincolnshire, will cover the unitary occasions the unitary cores and the cover the unitary constitution of Lincolnshire.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

The Duke of Edinburgh, Fellow, the Royal Society, chains a meeting of the Project Science Board of Fatrons at Suckingham Palace and attends a huncheon at the Royal Society, London SWI. The Primens Royal, Patron, with the Home Faur Thurs horse in Follestone, Kent; as Patron, the Butler Thust, wishs HMP Cantenbury, Kont; as Patron, Sense—the National Deadblind and Rubella Association, vishs Sense shops in Ramagata, Kent; and as President, REDR—Registered Engineers for Disaster Relief, attends a Working Disaster the Institution of Cell Engineers, London SWI. Primeers Alexandra, Patron, attends a Reception to mark the Stich Ammiransory of Mind (National Association for Mental Health) at St. James's Palact, The Dade of Gloscester opens Primeers After Court at Desiry University, and opens the refurbited-building at the Pingle School, Swedimout, Dertsyshire. The Duchess of Gloscester, Patron, the Foundation for the Starty of Infant Deaths (Cott Death Research and Support), attends the judging of the 1996 Christians Cangellows. The Sunday of Sense Cangellows. The Person of Edingent The Duches of Sense Start Opens Hill, West Senser, The Duches of Sense Start Opens the rew Children's Intention of Sense Sense Cangellows. The Person of Sense Cangellows. The Sense Start Opens the new Children's Hisspital, God's Hospital, London SEI.

Changing of the Guard

The Household Cavely Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Herse General, I Lan.



Watch out, the Roundheads are back

Republicanism is again fashionable among the chattering classes but could it threaten the monarchy? Jack O'Sullivan reports

power - are terrified of republicanism. They stoutly support democracy and defend their rights against the predations of Brussels. Even the Labour Party, which has carried the standard of parliamentary supremacy against all comers over the Scott report, are like lambs when it comes to abolishing the monarchy. The issue is still off the agenda, not even

So Tony Blair, the Labour leader. has silenced Ron Davies, Labour's spokesman on Wales, for making known his republicanism in general and his distaste for the Prince of Wales in particular, Even though much of the country is obsessed with the madequacies of the Royal Family. Mr Blair has stifled public discussion of the issue by Labour top

Republican sympathies were not sed by our leaders. After all, Oliver Cromwell, born nearly four centuries ago, gave West-ern Europe one of its first republics and ruled England without a king for 11 years. By the end of the 18th century. Thomas Paine, the radical philosopher, was convinced a new republic was around the corner, arguing that monarchy "may last a few years more, but cannot long resist the awakened reason and interest of man". How wrong he was.

British politicians - at least those remains barely conceivable that top politicians would echo Paine's sentiments. Why do we find it so difficult to allow republicanism a serious place in contemporary debate?

> The dangers are several. Anyone who attacks the institution of the monarchy risks being seen as cutting out the very heart of Britishness. The Oueen's head is on the currency and Her Majesty's Government rules the country. The country's soldiers pledge to die for her. Large sections of the population apparently work for her, from delivering the post to enforcing her justice, to running her

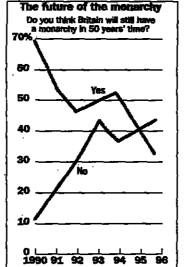
Think of the calendar, There is no Union day, to celebrate the forging of the British nation by the Act of Union in 1707, which joined Scotland and England. The United States has the Fourth of July. Thanksgiving and Columbus Day. France has Bastille Day. Instead, the national anthem interrupts Radio 4's Today programme when the Queen, her mother, the Duke of Edinburgh and Prince Charles have their birthdays. We are meant to feel, in their birthday celebrations, a sense of

Monarchy is intimately tied up with British history, in particular its triumphs and its empire. A history that is generally defined in episodes esist the awakened reason and named after the reigning monarch niterest of man. How wrong he was.

The royals are still in their palaces was no more. Britain has a further was no more. and castles (five of each). And it psychological problem with repub-

licanism. It is the creed of nations that bave fought Britain - of the French revolutionaries that wrought havoc in Europe, of the American Revolution that led to the breakaway of Britain's greatest colony, of a form of Irish nationalism that has proved so much

agitating over nearly two centuries. Republicanism has other very bad connotations. We suspect republicans do not know how to have fun. for it is a creed associated with Puritanism. Ask any child whom they prefer the politically correct but uninspiring Roundheads or the dashing frills of the Royal Cavaliers.



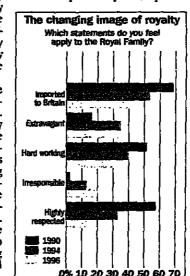
anachronistic, but still seems extraordinarily natural to most British citizens. To destroy it or attack it, without identifying new compensating ways for the British to express and celebrate their identity would leave a huge gap in society. We may have come to feel ambivalent about the monarchy, but how could we possibly muster any enthusiasm for a party political president or even a celebrity figure such as Richard

All of these factors help to explain why mainstream politicians largely. stay clear of republicanism. They do not have a scheme to fill the huge emptiness in national selfconfidence that would accompany the demise of the monarchy. So they judge that it would be better to leave the matter well alone.

Government politicians also have an investment in preserving moribund parts of the British constitution. To attempt to abolish the monarchy would mean unpicking much of the rest of the old fabric of the constitution. The House of Lords has been left unreformed for so long partly because, with so little legitimacy, it rarely challenges the House of Commons. That means the majority party can get on with governing. Likewise, the powerlessness of the Queen allows the Government to call on the Crown's wide-ranging executive powers, largely unfettered by an interfering head of state.

However, the status quo which the olitical classes have accepted largely inchanged for more than a century is beginning to be questioned. Nearly 17 years of one-party rule has left part of the political establishment notably sections of the Labour Party - feeling dispossessed and hostile to the establishment. Blair may have slapped down Mr Davies, but it appears he spoke for more of his party than the Labour leader may have first appreciated.

Meanwhile, at a popular level, criticism of the monarchy is growing. Over the past 15 years, opinion



polls have recorded a steady decline in royal ratings. Only one in three people now think that Britain would be worse off without a monarchy, a level of dissatisfaction which few would have forecast in the early Eighties when Royal weddings seemed to have cemented public affection for the institution.

Dimbleby, and

Diana's affair

This disillusionment must partly be due to royal scandals. But it is probably also linked to a deeper issue - the inevitable collision of the democratic impulse with authority and aristocracy. The ascendancy of democracy in Britain - best expressed in the Eighties and Nineties by consumerism - is measuring all institutions against rising

expectations of performance. The monarchy is failing these tests. The expensive lifestyle of the Royal Family fascinates, but also appals. Birth might be allowed to confer special privileges if the Royals live up to their role, but when antion is left in limbo, still deeply they behave like the Duchess of attached to a symbol that it knows York, the idea of a birthright to rule is turned into a laughing stock.

It would be easy to exaggerate the depth of the crisis. According to an poll conducted by Mori for the Independent on Sunday, only 17 per cent of people think that Britain would better off if the monarchy was abolished. And, despite all the recent bad publicity, 41 per cent still think that Prince Charles would make a good king (against 40 per cent who think he would be a bad

choice.) This is a large drop from the 82 per cent who thought in 1991 that he would make a good king, but it is not a disaster by the standards of political polling. Many presidents would be delighted to enjoy an approval rating at half the 73 per cent level that the Oueen scores,

Diana tells press divorce will go ahead kiss-and-tell

story to TV networks. John Bryan

and-tell ston

to publishers Renewed calls

Unless popular opinion shifts a great deal more against the monarchy, the House of Windsor should survive albeit it in more cramped financial conditions and with the fracture of Charles and Diana's divorce running through it for at least another generation.

So we are trapped. A common

catchphrase of politics is: if it isn't broken, don't fix it. But that does not mean that if something is broken, it should be repaired. The Monarchy clearly falls into that category: it is broken but no one has any idea how to fix it, so it's best left alone in the hope it will sort itself out. The is tarnished. The most likely effect of the resurgence of republicanism would be to force modernising monarchists to come up with a more appealing definition of the role of a family of hereditary rulers in the 21st century. Twenty years ago, Willie Hamilton, the late Labour MP, carved out a career as the sole voice of republicanism in the Commons. It is a measure of the Royal family's failure that what was once eccentric has now become respectable.

#### Two wars, one cup, one clanger

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Tankerson

Hopes that this summer's Euro 96 soccer championships will encourage better relations between England and her continental cousins are likely to receive a nasty setback in Manchester. The city is to play host to the German national team, and is honouring their visit with an exhibition

at the City Art Gallery.

Nothing wrong with that, of course.

But sensitive souls among you will shudder when I tell you that the work of one of the 12 commissioned artists is inspired by the football terrace chant: "One World Cup and two World

Martin Vincent is offering a "photo-work" depicting the football immortalised by the English army captain W P Nevill at the Somme, who famously offered a prize to the first of his platoons to kick it into the enemy trenches, before being killed. How does Mr Vincent account for

such provocative work? "Football is the main site of cultural exchange," he says blithely, seeming to

forget that it is also the main site for nationalistic exchange of the ugliest variety (with England boasting prob-ably the worst reputation in the world for such excess into the bargain).

"If you ask most people what they know about Germany, they'll tell you we had two wars with them, and beat them in the World Cup final," continues Vincent, who for obvious reasons does not involve himself in European

The exhibition is still awaiting official backing from Euro 96. Its bid may not receive much support from the local team. Manchester City Football Club fields no less than three German

#### Pregnant pause at Dartington Hall

It should be no surprise that Lord Young of Dartington is once again becoming a father at the age of 80. I have evidence to prove it.

A copy of Lord Young's schoolday recollections, Elmhirsts of Dartington, has landed on my desk. In one part, Lord Young writes the following of Dartington Hall's first headmaster, Mr Curry: "Curry was proud of the fact that at Dartington there were hardly any pregnancies amongst Dartington girls and seldom any pornographic drawings or writings on the walls of lavatories or anywhere

So far, so good. But then Lord Young adds a further paragraph, into which you may read what you will: "He was fortunate in the pancity of pregnancies. It was not for want of trying...

#### Shoppers shocked at the supermarket

The motto "Shop till you drop" has taken on a whole new meaning in the Lake District. Customers of Booths supermarket in Windermere have been blown back several paces after receiving electric shocks from their trolleys, which are unable to earth the static electricity in their wheels on account of a new rubber-backed floor being

laid on the premises. Unsurprisingly, the Preston-based Cows in, cans out, but

He was not shocked sufficiently, it

would appear, to lose his sense of

of our very low prices."

chain is having to call in the manu-

facturers and change the 1,000 wheels

# look on the bright side

The music on telephone exchanges has become the Muzak of business life, but it usually hits a note far more incongruous than appropriate. Not so at Great Harwood Food Products, a meat processing company in Lan-

As one is put on hold, dreaming idly of poor cows going in one end, cans coming out the other, one is somewhat taken aback to hear "Always Look on the Bright Side of Life" from Monty Python's Life of Brian.

Those with good memories will recall that the song is sung by those waiting extinction at the end of the film. I can only presume that some-body at Great Harwood has a macabre

#### Who do you think you are, journalists?

John Major is obviously not prepared to live dangerously during his trip round Asia. Yesterday, journalists were told that today's press conference in Seoul would consist of two questions only, one from a Korean, and one from the BBC's Robin Oakley. Anybody else would have to stay stumm ...

Eagle Eye



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# The elusive feelgood factor

It should be a good week for Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor. It began with him flexing his political muscles in the face of the Tory right by restating the case for a single European currency. He followed that with a robust performance in the House of Commons vesterday, selling his economic record like a born-again estate agent. The week should end with him pre-siding over the third interest rate cut in four months, tangible evidence of the Bank of England's acceptance that the Government will meet its inflation targets. The British economy, which is likely to

grow by close to 3 per cent this year, is in better health than its French and German competitors. They are beset by downturns so serious that they may be unable to meet the Maustricht criteria for joining the European Monetary Union.

That is not all. The housing market is showing signs of life. Prices are rising again for the first time for a year. Intense competition among lenders has driven the cost of a home loan to its lowest level for 30 years. Later this year as several building societies become publicly quoted companies, millions of customers will get large eash windfalls. Many are already eashing

in their Tessas. Let the good times roll.

The economy's strength will help to relieve the pressure on the Conservatives as John Major plays fingertip politics: that is, hanging on to power by his fingertips. Young voters, in full-time work and without large debts, will feel more comfortable. Yet most people will not feel secure enough to revise their expectations of the future. The rewards that a government can reap from an upturn have dwindled. The main reason is the spreading threat of job insecurity.

At first sight, this is difficult to believe. The number of redundancies has fallen from 391,000 in 1991 to 220,000 last year. But those overall figures do not tell the politically significant story: the middle classes are being hit increasingly hard. According to the Labour Force Survey, modern worker.

redundancies in manufacturing have fallen sharply. For instance, redundancies among craftsmen halved to 35,000 between 1992 and last year. Yet among professionals, managers and administrators, the redundancy rate stayed almost constant at between 45,000 and 50,000 a

Job insecurity is becoming so wide-spread – 8.7 million people have had a spell of unemployment since 1992 - that middle-class professionals, once so cosy in their closed shops, are starting to articulate fears that used to be the preserve of manual workers. The political consequences of this are hard to predict. That there will be political consequences is inevitable.

The trade unions seem powerless, stuck in the past: they will not be the vehicle for new protest. Worthy suggestions that Britain should adopt a German-style training system are beside the point: the

economy is moving too fast for that.

More potent could be the emergence
in Britain of the kind of anti-downsizing. anti-shareholder, anti-big corporation populism championed in the US by the presidential hopeful Pat Buchanan. That there may be a constituency for this was shown vesterday by Dale Campbell-Savours, the Labour backbencher, with his motion opposing the closure of the Campbell Soups factory in his constituency. It has won more cross-party support than any previous motion. Yet ultimately, protectionist populism leads nowhere. People may feel angry, but they want answers. How will they learn new skills? How will they be helped to look for a job? What aid will they be given

to cover their mortgage?

The Labour Party is attempting to address those questions in a new way through its idea of a stakeholder economy. The Conservatives, so used to addressing the consumer and the shareholder, have vet to begin to address the

# Portillo panders to forces' homophobia

Michael Portillo is pandering to the homophobia of the military establishment. Vesterday the Defence Secre- between two members of a light team tary announced that the ban on gays and can occasionally invoke loyalties and jeallesbians serving in the armed forces ousies which jeopardise the discipline would remain – and all because a survey of servicemen found only 3 per cent of personnel would be "more comfortable" if homosexuals were accepted.

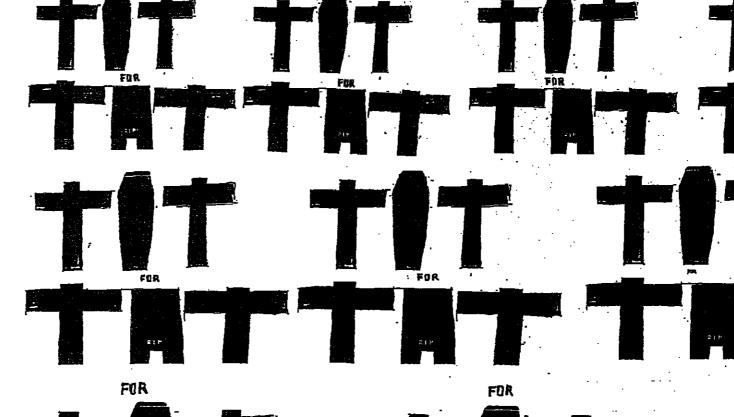
If 97 per cent of the armed forces said they would prefer to work alongside white colleagues, would he ban other ethnic groups? Of course not. Racism is unacceptable and so is the current ban on gavs and lesbians. Homosexuals are dismissed from the armed forces not because of their behaviour, but because of the mere fact of their sexuality. It is unlikely to be long before the ban is overturned by the European Court of Human Rights.

The military establishment is still trying to claim that its objections are not homophobic. They argue instead that gays and lesbians undermine the effectiveness of the unit as a whole, even if as individuals they are perfectly capable of doing the job. Pointing to the close, cramped quarters that fighting personnel must often share. Mr Portillo said that lifting the ban "would create such a complication that the armed forces ... believe that they could not then retain their fighting power, their trust, their morale.

when this occurs in other work places, most people adopt a professional approach and find a way to handle the situation. If the armed forces are right that their personnel lack the maturity to cope, then they should adopt the Australian approach: outlaw sexual relationships on the job. There is no reason why the mere

presence of gavs and lesbians in barracks should undermine operational effectiveness. Same-sex, same-sexuality bonding is not an essential precondition for "trust" between comrades in arms. But the guiding purpose of armies is to use discipline to harness force and control fear. Servicemen and women should learn to control the power of their own sexual attractions and revulsions in the same disciplined way.

The MoD should lift the ban on gays and lesbians. There will doubtless be short-term management problems as the forces cope with outbursts of harassment and homophobia. But no one ever promised that fighting prejudice would



When will it ever end?

#### • LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

#### Royal divorce: a monarchist's loyalty betrayed Big Bang without a creator

our next monarch spoke his marriage vows in front of millions of people and shortly afterwards committed adultery. He professes anxiety about what we are doing to the environment and yet is apparently happy to drive a large gas-guzzling motor car. He claims concern about wildlife while killing animals for sport. How can anyone reasonably be expected to have respect for him and the institution he represents? The Prince of Wales has badly let down those like myself who would, on balance, sooner have the monarchy than any of the alternatives likely to be on offer.

JOHN SMITHSON

Berwickshire

Sir: Censorship takes many forms. The latest example can be seen in the case of Ron Davies MP, who seems to have been forced to retract the statement of an honest opinion on a topic of public interest by pressure as much from his own party as from their opponents ("Blair faces backlash over royal apology", 4 March). De facto censorship is being

deployed as part of an electioneering strategy.
Mr Davies, like every other cit-

izen, has every right to voice his right to hear it. This kind of attempted cen-

Sir. It is good news to know that

a woman priest has been

appointed as a chaplain to the

Queen, but JoJo Moyes (2 March)

is wrong in saying that the appoint-

ment involves taking private ser-

vices for the Royal Family at St

James's Palace. The services in the

royal chapel are open to the pub-

lic. All the royal chaplain does is

Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

Preacher to the people at St James's

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone

number. (Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk)

destructive, or disloyal or, worst of all, harmful to the Party's prospects. The welcome attempt on your part to render respectable and constructive the discussion of constitutional alternatives will fail unless this kind of

TIT TIT TIT
THE TAR

censorship is resisted. DAVID BELL

Sir: Den Perrin asks (letter, 4 March) why the Prince of Wales is still eligible to become Head of the Church when a mere priest is sacked for adultery.

His question is wrong in one respect. Christ is the Head of the Church. The Queen is, and the Prince will become, merely the Supreme Governor, However the question still calls for an answer. The reason is that a priest is required by his office to "set the Good Shepherd before himself as the example of his calling" whereas the Supreme Governor-ship is not an office within the Church at all but merely a reminder to the faithful of the duty they owe to their secular

The Sovereign's sole function is to convene synods, just as it used to be the case that only the Emperor could call general councils. This has the salutary effect opinion and the rest of us the of reminding the bishops, the successors of the Aposties, that the ideas that they are servants, not sorship depends upon our being masters, and that the People of persuaded that there are matters God are more than mere pew

to preach there once a year, and

the Queen is very seldom in Lon-

as a royal chaplain I never knew

The writer was Chaplain to the

Queen, 1980-1990

me, they have become within the

Sir. The Independent has been excellent in its reporting of the progress of the Family Law Reform Bill through Parliament and in its comments about the concept of mediation in divorce. However, in the reporting on Diana's and Charles' divorce (29

February) the terms "custody" and "access", which were replaced in the 1989 Children's Act by "residence" and "contact", continue to be used. Would it not be an example to us all if the young royals used mediation to resolve their diffi-

the children? RUTH BLACKLOCK Salisbury & District Family Mediation Service, Salisbury, Wiltshire

culties amicably for the sake of

Sir: What makes Di think that she can retain the title of Princess of Wales? Certainly not the wishes of the majority of Welsh women.

week but the event will probably only merit a few seconds of television time. Not so the Princess. We have plenty of sick children to visit, but presumably our weather is too cold.

MAIR WILLIAMS

Holyhead, Anglesey

#### What the police are there for

don on a Sunday. In my ten years her Majesty to be present.

Canon John Grimwade (1 March) asserts that the Audit Cirencester, Gloucestershire

> ANDREW FOSTER Controller The Audit Commission London SW1

Sir: The man who is likely to be our next monarch spoke his mar-ous would be in poor taste, or rhetoric. This is what, it seems to ramifications of "The universal" question" (Magazine, 2 March) Andrew Brown says "The Big

Bang ... implies that the universe

Bookham, Surrey

had a moment of creation". It actually implies (ie logically necessitates) nothing of the kind. The Big Bang suggests a begin-ning, which is at best compatible with the idea of a conscious beginner, ie. a creator. A beginning could have taken place as a natural event, as a result of a mind-

less cause without such a creator. The observations leading to the theory of a Big Bang relate to the part of the universe accessible to human investigation - but no one can be sure that this is the whole universe. If it is not, there may be other parts which are not expanding, or which had their

Perhaps our Big Bang, in short, was no more than a local event, in relation to the whole no more significant than the formation of a new galaxy in relation to the

own Big Bang before or after

observable universe, or of a new star in relation to an existing

The Big Bang theory, moreover, arises from extrapolation into the remote past of trends observable now, and they may not always have existed. Is it not possible that even what is accessible to us actually pulsates, alternately expanding and contracting, and that we are able to observe only one period of expansion in a possibly infinite series of cycles?

Of course, we can only speculate, and the suggestion of a creation is one speculation – for some of us an implausible one – among others.

JOHN HYAMS Reading, Berkshire

Sir: Forgive me for asking a dumb question, but which way was the Big Bang? Or was it all around us, in which case where is the middle, and how close are we to it? Professor JOHN CARSWELL

London SW1

#### Leighton's wry look at a 'golden age'

Walker Art Gallery (letter, 24 February), explains that painting of the Cimabue Madonna procession depicted the Renaissance as a golden age in which society honoured art and artists.

When I first saw it, some years ago, my reaction to this painting was to laugh aloud right there in the National Gallery. The painting is a brilliant and cynical comment on the true place of the artist in all ages, because the fact

The Prince is a regular visitor | Sir: Julian Treuherz Keeper of the is that not one person among those depicted is actually looking at the Cimabue. They are each and all intent on their individual concerns — pomp, status, flirta-tion, childish games, absorbing conversations.

Florence, it is clear, values the Cimabue as a status symbol, but has no views, one way or the other, on its value as a work of art. Did Leighton sense a similar attitude in his own day?

("How much intolerance can we tolerate?", 4 March) that our sec-

ular society lives on the capital of

Judaeo-Christian moral val-

wes"?
Which are they? Get married?

Tell the truth? Keep your

promises? Don't steal? Don't

murder? These are all taken for

granted by Homer, and by ancient Greek writers in general,

hundreds of years before Chris-

tianity. They also exist in societies outside the orbit of Christianity

They are human values. Their

existence does not depend on

religious belief, and there is no

proof that they are in any way

Professor MAURICE POPE

from China to Peru.

strengthened by it.

MARGOT LAWRENCE Edgware, Middlesex

#### **Detector users to**

Sir. Your article "Law may soon be watching the detectorists" (1

Responsible detector users are on record as finding and honestly

The proposals will vastly increase the number of items that will have to be formally reported, with the

R WHALLEY National Council for

#### Christians did not suffer with crooks invent morality Sir: Why are we always being told

March) appeared to be another example of the activities of criminals who employ metal detectors being publicised to promote legislation to impose still more controls on legitimate hobbyists.

reporting 90 per cent of the treasures recovered over the last five years (Lord inglewood - Treasure Trove Reviewing Committee Report, December 1995). It must also be appreciated that the controls will be extended to ordinary members of the public because the law will apply to all.

threat of criminal proceedings if anything is omitted. The definition of treasure is such that unwary members of the public could be unknowingly in breach of the law.

Metal Detecting

#### Genetic duck-pond

Sir: The explanation of the preponderance of Mallard males on the Barbican pond (Letters, 23 February) lies in the sex chromosome make-up of the ducks. Humans and other mammals have two X chromosomes in the female, one X and a Y in the male. A deleterious gene on one X is commonly countered by a normal one on the other, so that the females have a better survival rate than the males.

In mallards and other birds, however, there is a converse arrangement: here it is the males

# Charles and Di's grim fairy-tale ending

The reason there has been so much delay in the royal divorce is that neither side could agree on what ceremony to use. Charles wanted a simple druid-driven divorce under green trees on a pesticide-free Welsh hillside, while Diana tended more towards a prime-time ritual on *Panorama*, but they have compromised on a brief. ceremony in St Paul's cathedral officiated by the Archbishop of Canterbury, with exclusive rights shared between Hello! magazine and Resurgence. To give you some idea of how it

will be. I have been privileged to see a leaked copy of the draft ceremony, and am pleased to be able to bring it to you today.

At the start of the fairy-tale royal divorce, the Prince and Princess shall approach the Archbishop, each accompanied by their advisers, solicitors, make-up artists, etc. and they shall stand reverently in front of him while he addresses them and the

congregation. Archhishop: Dearly beloved, without marriage it would be impossible to get divorced, therefore one leads to the other, and God does condone divorce after all. This is a very complicated matter and if you are still confused about it, send to



#### MILES KINGTON

Canterbury Cathedral for our factsheet enclosing lots of money and a stamped addressed envelope marked "Divorce", but the gist is that the Church has decreed that divorce is OK in certain circumstances, as follows: 1. When one of the partners is a direct descendant of Henry VIII

who thought of the idea in the first place and was divorced twice to show how it works in practice; 2. When the mother of one of the partners is the Queen of England

and asks me as Archbishop to get on with a divorce and not to hang around: 3. When media pressure is so

intense in favour of a divorce that it is impossible to resist. At this point the Prince's mobile phone shall ring and the Prince shall

Prince: Hello? Hi. Camilla!

Lovely! But not a good time to talk. OK? No. it's not the phone playing up - there's an echo where I am. St Paul's. That's right. The cathedral. That's right - it's today - the Big D! Ring me later. Bunnykins, when I'm a free man. Tool toot.

The Prince shall then ring off and tell the Archbishop that it was a wrong number, at which the Princess shall look daggers at the Prince and the service shall continue.

Archbishop: Charles and Diana. 15 years ago I married you in this place into holy matrimony in the ceremony known as the fairy-tale wedding - well, it was not I personally, it was my predecessor, but we all look and sound the same in this ridiculous get-up - and at the time we all said it was a fairy-tale wedding, but since then we have looked more fully into the good book, that is to say, Grimm's Fairy Tales, and we have discovered that a fairy-tale wedding is far more likely to end in tears than happiness ever after. therefore are you two prepared to end this marriage in a fairy-tale

divorce? The unhappy pair: We are. Archbishop: Let us give thanks at this time that this marriage has not ended in any of the other ways in

which a fairy-tale wedding can come

to grief, ie that there is no giant stalking the kingdom demanding tribute of seven maidens a year, plus all the corn he can get, and that the Prince's father, the Duke of Edinburgh, has not been remarried to a wicked stepmother, and that the Princess of Wales has not been turned by a magic spell into a little mouse, and that ...

Prince: Oh. do get on with it! I am due at 3.30 to inspect deforestation problems in Somerset and it's a good couple of hours by helicopter! Princess: Honestly, that's the last straw! You ruined our marriage because you always took more interest in your pedigree goats and your fruit juices than your family, and now you're trying to ruin our divorce

Prince: May I just point out that if you had ever taken a half-way intelligent interest in the problems of the world...

At this point Dame Cilla Black shall step forward and address the cameras.

Dame Cilla Black: Well, Chuck, it doesn't sound as if you two have had a great time since we last saw you - I can't wait to have more of the gory details after the break!

More tomorrow, if you can face it.

Sir: Professor Waddington's arti-cle "Finding a real job for Bobby" Commission's report starts from the assumption that police patrol is intended to prevent and detect crime. It does not. The report recognises that patrol fulfils a number of key functions including responding to incidents and emergencies; reassuring the public; deterring street crime, nui-sance and vandalism; forging links with local communities; and gathering intelligence about crim-

inal activity.
Professor Waddington asserts that the Commission chastises the public for using the 999 system. It does not. It actually emphasises the importance of freeing the 999 system for emergency calls by suggesting the introduction of an information line, perhaps using 333. And he implies that the Commission undervalues the police as a symbol of authority. It does not. The report clearly recognises this important role, but then analyses how the police can fulfil it most effectively in the 1990s.

#### Save the world with low sperm counts

Rome predicted that before the next century there would be a world food shortage. Thirty years later we have set-aside programs to reduce over-production.

In the Seventies, scientists discovered acid rain and predicted that within 10 years forests would die. Last summer, apart from the tion. drought, our forests seemed greener than ever before. In the Eighties, scientists dis-

covered a hole in the ozone layer; thanks to combined efforts by deodorant and shaving foam

Sir. In the Sixties, the Club of users, this problem is being reduced... Now, in the Nineties, there is

a new phenomenon - the reduction of sperm counts, due to pollution. Never before have I seen pollution in such positive light: the only way to curb pollution is the reduction of world popula-

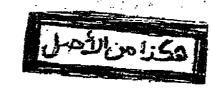
I would not be surprised if 30 years from now, we will have setaside programmes for sperm pro-

> ENGEL KNOPPERT Voorhout, Holland

17.53 Marie 18 100 mg The second secon

that have the identical pan of the chromosomes. WW, while the females have a differing pair predominance of, males.

DENYS W TUCKER London, SW19



So the Tories' lost leader is restless. The deal won by Chris Patten on behalf of Hong Kong citizens, and the 7,000 Indians there in particular, is an awesome indicator of his influence over John Major. Headlines such as "Open invite to 2 million" are the last thing government business managers wanted just now,

The ministerial line is that this loosening of visa policy had been going to happen all along. That wasn't my impression; I don't think it was Governor Patten's impression either. Only a few months ago, it seemed that Michael Howard had closed his mind to such a change of policy; in the Commons lobbies yesterday there were plenty of Tory MPs utterly gruntle-less about it.

Pattern may not be a power in Hong Kong for much longer, but he is a power in this land. He has long acted as a partisan supporter of the Prime Minister's best self. I don't know whether Patten had to look Major in the eye and tell him that this was a matter of honour. But had he done so, the change in policy would have become inevitable.

What was almost as intriguing was Pat-ten's unusually frank public admission about his keenness to return to British politics. Up his keenness to return to British politics. Up to now he has been guarded, giving the impression that he may seek some fat-chap international job – president of the UN Cinnamon Commission – or retire to well-upholstered privacy, composing light satirical verse and sauntering through the villages of the Lot valley in the company of his good of the Lot valley in the company of his good iriend Jonathan Dimbleby.

The Conservative Party was never wholly

convinced by this. But now that Major has done the decent thing, helping Patten to leave Hong Kong with a clearer conscience, the gossip will rise several degrees. They know what this means. Patten may yet be the next Tory leader.

He would, of course, be a different sort of Tory leader in the late Nineties than he would have been in the first part of the decade. As Conservatives at home wallow in loose talk about Asian values, here is one

In toose talk about Asian values, here is one Tory who has actually been living there. It has rubbed off. He is too shrewd to be taken in by the modish worship of Asia currently fashionable in London (it used to be Eastern mysticism that got people frog-eyed; now it's Eastern materialism). Patter knows that so-called "Asian values" can produce, in practice, Victorian results - caning, corruption, child labour, and other stuff we have spent the 20th century trying to escape from Patten also knows how widely those economies differ, and how in practice Asian states can be highly interventionist.

But he has picked up enough of the energy and scale of the Asian renaissance to change his thinking - and, in crude terms, to push it rightwards. He wants to shrink, quite drastically, the proportion of public spending taken by the state. Influenced par-ticularly by that old Asian sage, Lord Skidelsky, he is a convert to the "30 per cent" state. Like most advocates of much lower public spending, Patten has been disturbingly vague about what services would be cut to get there. But Hong Kong seems to have



Thatcherites suspect that Major may be working for a Patten succession

completed a shift in his economics begun by Margaret Thatcher.

Once known as a passionate pro-European, Patten has also come out as a sceptic about the European single currency. On that, as on the size of the state, his politics have developed in parallel to the views of other old Tory leftists, such as Malcolm Rifkind and William Waldegrave.

A more telling comparison is with Kenneth Clarke, who remains a traditional welfarestatist, derisive about the possibility of driving down public spending by another quarter or so and sympathetic to a single currency.

Unlike Clarke, Patten is starting to look like the kind of Tory moderate with whom the Tory right could do business. Patten's earlier, rebuffed, call for full passport rights for all Hong Kongers has given him some-thing to live down in Tebbit country. But that will be partly discounted as "going with the Territory", and can now be set against his shifts on economics and Europe.

He has, in addition, one priceless asset. He

has not been around. He cannot be blamed for the Government's behaviour over the Scott report, or for Black Wednesday, or anything else. After some of the grimmest years of government unpopularity in mod-ern history. Patten is the nearest thing the Tory party has to a man with clean hands.

His political strategy for Hong Kong's handover has been bitterly criticised from inside the colony. But he was never responsible for the big policy decisions hemming him in; and a lot of the sting has been taken away by yesterday's news on visas.

This clears him to come home as a serious potential contender for the Tory leadership, missing the next election by a few months, but in time for any post-election contest. He would need Major's help with timing, and he would need to find a way of returning to Parliament. But if the Tories were by then the opposition, or had won yet another election victory, by-elections might be winnable again. For a couple of years or so, there has been gossip about a by-election involving the Kensington seat held by Pat-ten's old admirer, Sir Nicholas Scott.

Speculation like this, chewed over in Covent Garden restaurants and among right-wing dining clubs, has led the Thatcherite wing of the party to ask, with increasing suspicion, whether John Major is

working actively for a Patten succession. I suspect that in his own quiet way he is. The two men remain confidants. They spent many private hours together this week. Patten has given long-range advice and reas-surance during some of Major's lonelier pas-sages in office. At that level in politics there is no one else, except perhaps Ian Lang, to whom the Prime Minister feels closer. No

wonder Major would like him back. The pitter-Patten of returning Governor would have a significant impact on British pol-ities. It isn't only that Patten might prevent the Tory party falling into the hands of the rightwing "bastards"; or indeed, the passionately pro-European Ken Clarke. It's more that, as currently positioned, he offers a middle way, and therefore an alternative to the Tory civil war that has been so widely predicted.

We are running far ahead of events -though not, at a pure guess, far ahead of pri-vate conversations in the Governor's mansion in recent days. But how would the party react?

Up to now, the assumption among his potential rivals has been to dismiss Patten - too far away, too long away. And in the frantic, jealous, inward-gazing world of Westminster politics, it may seem that to be living on the edge of China is to be about as out of touch as you can get.

But the Tories at large may take a different view. Come to think of it, for a party that claims to be globalist and to see visions of the future in Asia, and which has been handicapped by the sheer dreary familiarity of its leadership, what neater answer could there

# Gay ban is based on bias alone

ANOTHER VIEW Edmund Hall

Well bless my soul, the ban on gays in the military is to stay – hardly the most surprising news of the day. After all, the MoD made crystalclear from the outset that the internal review was intended to support its view that all lesbians and gays in the forces, however good their records, should automatically be sacked.

A series of leaks, interviews by dmirals to regional newspapers, and off-the-record briefings to triendly journalists over the past six months made it impossible for the survey of 13,500 servicemen and women to be genuinely impartial. The questions were loaded - "Do you agree that all homosexual acts are perverted?" And the supposedly anonymous forms asked respondents details of their unit, length of service, rank, branch and place of birth. No sane serviceman or woman can seriously have believed they were giving genuinely anonymous information - and it was clear from the press what their bosses

wanted them to say. Since when did the British armed forces become a democracy? It's a lovely idea and I've already started writing the new questionnaire. Do you agree or disagree with the fol-lowing statements? I would like to serve in Northern Ireland. Black and/or Asian people look inappropriate in Brigade of Guards uniforms. The Scottish infantry regiments should be decimated. Hands up those who want to go to Bosnia.

What does the review actually tell us? The only "fact" in the whole 242 pages (plus appendices) is the announcement that lots of people in the forces are homophobic - it really has been a great day for revelations. But since when did the existence of prejudice become the justification for its own continuance?

The review team looked at counand concluded that no evidence could be found that lifting the ban has not impaired military effectiveness. The only answer to a test that strict would be to look for a marked improvement in military effectiveness after the ban was lifted - and even I accept that might be a little optimistic.

The review demolishes all the basic arguments that the MoD has used in defence of the ban over the last couple of years. It says that arguments about "security" fears and worries about the care of young people no longer hold water. All that is left is the prejudice - the fears of

that gays simply aren't up to the job. Well, the fact is that in most of the Western world lesbians and gays serve happily and successfully, even in Israel, the most combat-hardened force in the world. The MoD has admitted in this report that the ban is based on prejudice alone - how on earth can it continue now?

The writer was a junior naval officer: he was dismissed in 1988 after "com-

# Has peace been blown apart?

The suicide bombings in Israel will bring about a new cycle of violence, says Patrick Cockburn

created a political crisis for Israel, the Palestinians and the peace accords that were meant to resolve the conflict between them. They have all but destroyed the government of Shimon Peres, which is now likely to lose the election in May. They have ended, for the moment, the hopes of Yasser Arafat of gradually creating a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza.

It has all happened so suddenly. Ten days ago Peres seemed to be heading for a landslide victory. Polls showed that the Oslo accords were Binyamin Netanyahu, the leader of the right-wing Likud party, was still damaged by the ssassination of Yitzhak Rabin last November. But four bombs have transformed relations between Israelis and Palestinians. As Israelis spoke yesterday of forming a national unity government there was little support left for the next stage of accommodation with Arafat.

It has been a strange bombing campaign, not least because nobody knows who is carrying it out. Although the suicide bombers come from some fraction of Izzedine al-Qasim, the military wing of Hamas, their statements are constantly contradicted by events. The bomb yesterday in Tel Aviv followed a detailed leaflet the day before that said there would be a three-month truce. The attacks appear to be carried out by a few fanatical cells in the area of Hebron and Jerusalem, possibly with support from some militant Hamas leaders in Jor-

The declared reason for the bombings is vengeance for the assassination of Yahyah Chief Buthelezi in South Africa, Ayyash, the Hamas master an Israeli puppet ruling Gaza as

The suicide bombs in Tel bomb-maker, on 5 January, by Aviv and Jerusalem have a booby-trapped phone planted a booby-trapped phone planted by Israeli agents. Retaliation was expected but not on the present devastating scale. As the attacks continue, however, it seems that whoever is behind them simply wishes to end Israeli-Palestinian détente.

In this they are succeeding very well. By twice hitting No 18 buses in Jerusalem the bombers mocked claims of improved security. Even as troops and police poured into Jerusalem yesterday, the bombers attacked again in Tel Aviv.

"Everybody is now caught in a trap, both Peres and Arafat," said a Palestinian observer, who did not want to be named, in Jerusalem yesterday. "The Israeli government needs to do something spectacular to answer Hamas if it is to win the. election. This has to be as dramatic as the suicide bombs themselves. The only thing they can really do is go into Gaza or one of the other autonomous Palestinian towns. This might go down well with the Israeli public, but would certainly lead to more suicide bombs."

Zeev Schiff, a commentator close to the Israeli establishment, wrote yesterday: "Israel demands that the Palestinian Authority take care of Hamas and other terror groups located in the autonomous area. If the Palestinian Authority fails to act. Israel will intervene and srike against the various tar-gets." Specifically, Israel wants Arafat to outlaw the whole of Hamas - its political as well its military wing - and arrest its

leaders and activists.
The problem for Arafat is that, if he does do this, he will look like what his radical enemies have always claimed he was: a Palestinian version of

ported by almost 20 per cent of the Palestinian population. Arafat's tactic has always been to try to co-opt the political wing of Hamas - he almost got them to take part in elections - and to isolate and pressurise Izzedine al-Qasim. He may also feel he will gain little if he simply drives them underground.

But if Aratat fails to deal with Hamas, he will face armed Israeli intervention, and that would be deeply humiliating. It would compromise the fledg-ling independence of the autonomous areas, It would set a precedent for a Likud government, making it easier for if, as seems increasingly likely, he comes to power. Mr Arafat would also have to decide if he would tell the 20,000 armed men under his command, designated as police but often combat soldiers, to open fire on any Israeli intervention force.

Probably, Mr Arafat will chose to strike hard at Hamas. Ordinary Palestinians are probably more receptive to the idea than before, "After Sunday's bomb, for the first time I heard most Palestinians say it was counter-productive," said a Palestinian. "They thought the first bomb was revenge for Ayyash but this is too much. They also know the closure of the West Bank means semistarvation for the three months until the Israeli election."

In Gaza, Arafat succeeded surprisingly well in isolating Hamas. But the current wave of attacks come from the West Bank, In Hebron district, Hamas is strong and Israeli troops have not yet withdrawn. They were to make a partial pull-back in March, but this is now unlikely to take place. It was from al-Fawwar refugee camp, immediately outside Hebron, that the attack, to show that Israel is not



Palestinian women in the Gaza Strip demonstrate against terrorism yesterday first two suicide hombers came. It lies in the so-called area "B" where Israel is in charge of

overall security. Arafat says he is not responsible. Ordinary Israelis will not see it that way. In their eyes, the Oslo accords gave the Palestinians a measure of independence in return for peace. Instead they dare not let their children get on a bus. They will blame Arafat. The right will do so because it always opposed

Oslo and believes Arafat and

Hamas work hand in glove.

Israelis as a whole will want

There is a further reason why Israel may want to act militarilv. The Oslo accords reflected the balance of power between Israel and the Palestinians in the early 1990s. Israel was clearly predominant. But in the invasion of Lebanon in 1982-84, during the Palestinian intifada three years later, and in the Gulf war, Israel had been unable to turn its military

power into political dividends. The suicide bomb is a weapon of savage power that has disturbed the previous balance between Israel and the Middle East.

militarily impotent in the face Palestinians. One Palestinian, of the suicide bombers. Palestinians of explain why Yahyah Ayyash was so popular, said: You don't understand how powerless and vulnerable Palestinians feel. They liked Ayyash because they knew he frightened Israelis." But now, the terrified Israelis will strike back, returning the two peoples to a cycle of ever-escalating, titfor-tat revenge. In Ireland this pattern of killing used to be called "the politics of the last atrocity". This is the politics that now threatens to bury the rational calculations of the would-be peace makers in the

# Why most of Europe secretly wants us to lead

should develop. There should be one currency, one set of interest rates, one economic policy, all based on the decisions of the Frankfurt bank. Europe should volunteer for common weapons purchasing, an amalgamation of its defence industries and some common army divisions.

From there it should progress to a common defence: one army, one airforce and one defence policy. Germany has said that political union is its price for monetary union. In other words France and Germany want to strike out in a bold direction of merging their two countries. For some the question is:
who wants to join them? For the rest
it is who will they allow to join them?
The United Kingdom now needs to

influence Europe decisively for the better. We are European by history, geography, culture and interest. No sensible person disputes that. Being European does not mean that we should always agree with whatever France and Germany propose. We should set out an alternative vision of Europe prosperous and free, a Europe open to trade with itself and the rest of the world, a Europe in the forefront of new developments.

France and Germany never tire of telling us how they think Europe if monetary union is followed by political union, and if more and more countries are brought into the EU without the chance to defend their national interest properly.

The German government sees Western European monetary union as similar to Germany's recent monetary union, when East joined West. It underestimates the important role common German nationality and language played in merging the DM and Ostmark It skates over the great costs incurred in that union. There is still a hefty surcharge on the income tax bills of all West Germans to pay for it, and there are still very long sole queues in the east.

Germans, while grumbling, accept it because they belong to one country. How would people in south-east England feel when told that tax bills were to go up to pay for the less pros-perous parts of a Western European currency union, such as the north-east of France? The UK currently pays £10,000m a year as its gross contribution to the EU: that's 4p out of the standard income tax rate of 24p, or one-sixth of the total. That could easily double to 8p to pay for a cur-rency union. Is it worth it? What

would we get in return? We should challenge the idea that

Some argue we should be strong
advocates of a wider EU, bringing in

The Government is close to deciding its vision for the EU. John Redwood

offers this script

Hungary and the Czech Republic and others as soon as possible. I have no objections to that, but it does not solve the other problems or lead to a less intrusive or less centralised Union. Every time in the past that the com-munity has expanded we have seen the centre take more power and erode the national veto further. It will press for exactly the same this time round. By all means let's widen the Union but let us do so while loosening its grip, trusting nations and localities to do

more and Brussels to do less. The UK should set out a clear vision at the next intergovernmental conference. No other state will do so, although many will have private doubts about always being told the answers in advance by France and Germany. The Mediterranean countries will be excluded from monetary union. Germany has made that explicit in its recent statements. We

should be able to raily some support, especially now that the more Eurosceptic Partido Popular has won more seats that the Socialists in Spain. The Scandanavian countries are also worried by the Union's direction. Sweden has already said it wants its own optout from the euro; Denmark would find it difficult to persuade its electorate of the wisdom of going in

given the initial referendum result. The Republic of Ireland is reluctant to join if the UK does not, given the pattern of her trade. The UK should be the policeman of the Maastricht treaty. We should block any move to let Belgium into EMU as her debt levels are well outside the terms of the treaty. The UK should be the political voice of all those Germans who want to keep their DM and all those Frenchmen who think the Maastricht criteria represent a price too high.

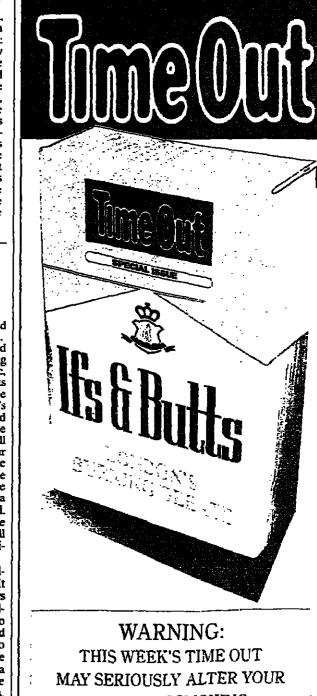
We should remind states that the seace has been kept in Europe since 1945 thanks to Nato, which protected the West from danger without, and thanks to the successful democracies protecting us from dangers within. involving the EU in our defence arrangements could only be disruptive. The neutral states would resent it: surely we are not saying that they must be forced to abandon neutrality? The countries that make an important con-

tribution to Nato would have divided loyalties and confusion of command. We should be positive. We should set out an agenda to make legislating in the EU much more democratic, involving member states' parliaments

and consulting people likely to be affected. We should set Europe's horizons wider, to expand trade and alliances with America and Asia: we face global competition, and we will earn our living in a global market. Our European links and friendships are important, but they must not be allowed to stifle our creativity, free trade and entrepreneurial flair at a time when they will be much needed. Our vision of Europe with more

trade and fewer laws can equip us all for the world of the internet, multimedia and new technology. The Franco-German vision is old-

fashioned and backward-looking. It will mean higher taxes, more laws and less ability to respond to the challenges of modern life. It will lead to protectionism and to regional and national discontents. It is our duty to stop it and offer something better. We want a Europe that works, not a Europe of the dole queue. A Europe that respects independent traditions, not forces them together. Doing that would merely create a whole load of



VIEWS ON SMOKING



THE INDEPENDENT • Tuesday 5 March 1996

BUSINESS NEWS DESK: tel 0171-293 2530 fax 0171-293 2098

# Kvaerner buys Trafalgar for £904m

RUSSELL HOTTEN

Norwegian engineering group Kvaerner yesterday reached a £904m agreed takeover of Trafalgar House, whose luxury Cunard shipping line is likely to be sold as part of a £750m disposal plan.

Kvaemer's bid of 50p per ordinary share, and 80p for the preference shares brings to an end Hongkong Land's disas-trous five-year investment in Trafalgar which has cost it sev-

eral hundred million pounds. Hongkong Land, owned by the Jardine Matheson empire, has agreed to sell its 26 per cent stake. a move which will be influential

Hongkong Land will receive £224m under the deal, but analysts believe its investment has cost it at least double that figure, including backing two rights issues in recent years.

Simon Keswick, chairman of Trafalgar, said: "The offer by Kyaerner for Trafalgar House represent an excellent opportunity for realising value for Trafalgar House's shareholders."

Kvaerner's president and chief executive Erik Tonseth said the deal would be partly funded by

when other shareholders con-sider whether to accept the of-of sales have already been signed are among some of the liner op-erators talking to Kvaerner about Trafalgar, including the Ritz hotel and housebuilder Ideal Homes, and Mr Tonseth estimates the remaining assets will

fetch another £750m. Cunard, pride of Britain's merchant and owner of the QE1 is almost certain to be sold. Mr Tonseth said: "In my opinion. Cunard falls outside our core criteria and we will address it accordingly." Cunard, which last September had a book value in the Trafalgar accounts of £294m, is now thought to be worth little more than £200m. P&0, Walt

Disney, and Carnival Cruises

buying Cunard, which was last year hit by a row when it set-sea before completing a re-fit.

Kyaerner, is also likely so sell its stake in British construction company Amec, which was built up during an abortive £320m takeover attempt last year, and possibly Trafalgar's remaining US housebuilding interests. Kvaerner said it was not under pressure for fire sales.

Mr Tonseth said it would take until at least 1997/98 to restore Trafalgar to satisfactory prof-itability. The troubled UK company made a 1995 pre-tax loss

start to show

£114m and

£310m rights

issue launched Last big acquisition before

recession and

their toll. Share

price starts to

Kvaerner wants to internationalise its oil and gas operations, particularly in Asia, and was keen to take over a company with strong project manageent experience

Mr Tonseth said: "We believe that the skills and technologies of Trafalgar House and Kvaern-er will substantially enhance the prospects for the combined businesses and will create one of the most powerful engineering companies outside the US."

Kvaerner only has a market capitalisation of £900m, but it is Europe's largest shinbuilder and

Trafalgar House: the rocky road to takeover

a major offshore oil industry engineering company.

Mr Tonseth has made little secret of the fact he is only interested in Trafalgar's core engineering and construction businesses, including Davy and

He had originally begun negotiations for these bus Trafalgar said it would only accept a bid for the whole company. Mr Tonseth said: "Sometimes when you want to go somewhere, you have to make a detour and in a way we are making a detour."

The Jardine group had targeted Trafalgar as a way to reduce its exposure to Hong Kong and

the commercial threats from the Chinese takeover. Hongkong Land said it planned to use the funds raised from its stake in

Trafalgar on Asian investments. Mr Tonseth said the takeover will cause few job losses and will result in a shift in Kvaemer's centre of gravity from Norway to London, though the group's HQ will remain in Oslo. Kvaerner had already moved its subsea operations to the UK.

He said: "If this acquisition goes through we will have a very substantial presence in the UK and this will have an impact on the way Kvaerner carries out its operations."

Hongkong Land's decision to accept Kvaerner's offer for its 26 per cent stake in Trafalgar House was not taken lightly. In-volving a £100m loss, the disposal represents the latest in a long line of strategic failures by its ultimate parent. Jardine Matheson, which has been trying to diversify out of the colony for 25 years.

A tough

the colony

company

TOM STEVENSON

City Editor

Henry Keswick, Jardine's chairman, is renowned for his virulent hatred of what he himself once described as China's "Marxist-Leninist, thuggish, op-pressive" regime. But his dislike of what Hong Kong has in store from next July is matched only by his inability since the early 1970s to reduce the family company's dependence on the colony.

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The swoop on Trafalgar's shares in October 1992 was an audacious move to take advantage of a dramatic plunge in the value of one of Britain's once-greatest conglomerates. The Keswicks hoped it would be a cheap toehold in a Britishbased but international construction and engineering group. It had the added bonus of some high-profile trophy assets such as London's Ritz ho-tel and the QE2 cruise liner.

The decline of Trafalgar in recent years was a shocking slap in the face for that strategy but it was not the Keswicks first taste of failure. In the late 1980s Jardine acquired Kwik Save, the UK discount grocer that has since underperformed the market by a wide margin. It has also made poor investments in Spain. By 1994, more

than half of group profits still came from Hong Kong. Ironically evidence of a rap-prochement with the Chinese authorities might mean the imperative to shift assets out of the colony has lessened.



Plain sailing: Erik Tonseth, Kvaerner's chief executive (left), and Nigel Rich, his Trafalgar Cunard sets a steady course for the marketplace

> re-fit continues to haunt Cunard financially, but Kvaerner is already thought to be in discussions about offloading the

Among the potential pur-chasers are Lord Sterling's P&O shipping line, US cruise The public relations night-mare that followed the QE2's Caribbean, and the Walt Disney operations Carnival and Royal

group, which has already moved into the liner market. Cunard made a loss of £134m

last year, although its book value in the last Trafalgar accounts was put at £294m after a £79m write-down in assets. Trafalgar had embarked on a large reorganisation of Cunard, investing some £200m over the

past two years. But Trafalgar said yesterday it did not expect Cunard to return to profit for a least two years. Demand on the fleet of eight passenger ships, which also includes the prestigious Royal Viking Sun, has slowed as the slump that hit the cruise industry in 1995 looks like continuing into 1996.

Cunard was particularly badly hit because of underinvestment in its ageing fleet, which is less efficient and less well organised on board than the modern vessels. The QE2 is said to be 30 per cent more expensive to run that P&O's Oriana.

But analysts feel that cruise operators with deeper pockets

telephony, despite cable's sharply lower rates, while BSkyB, the satellite broadcast-

er, has developed a huge lead

over cable television and has

sewn up the big contracts for the

supply of movies and sport,

the main drivers of subscription

television. "We have to offer

will be able turn Cunard around as long as the crucial North American market continues to grow steadily.

than Trafalgar (or Kvaerner)

Excluding the disposals already announced by Trafalgar. Kyaerner is expected to raise £750m from selling off businesses, of which Cunard will be

company, the biggest builder of cruise ships in the world, knows something about the passenger liner market and will not feel the need to embark on a fire sale. One Kvaerner source said: "Cunard is not part of our core strategy. But neither do we fell under pressure to sell."

Ritz sold for £75m.

E321m loss anagunset, ideal Homes sold: Agree big from Kusserner

Front line: The booming industry is set to move into a vast area of new technology.

# Cable prepares to turn interactive

**MATHEW HORSMAN** 

The cable industry is gearing up for a large investment in interactive media, following selective testing of new technology in franchises around Britain.

Cunard charted some rough

seas last year but it remains the

pride of Britain's merchant

fleet - which is why several

potential buyers are currently

running their slide rules over

the operation, writes Russell

The cable operators, including market leaders Telewest and Nynex CableComs, are exploring the potential of socalled "cable modems" that allow high-speed interactive services such as home shopping. home banking and Internet connections.

Cable lines, which are mainly fibre-optic, can speed up the exchange of data compared with traditional copper wire, ac-

cording to experts. Nynex is running trials of modems in Bromley Kent, and expects to be able to introduce. a high-speed service throughout its network by as early as next year. Telewest's parent company, the media giant TCI, has launched trials in Baltimore.Maryland, and intends to

set up separate tests in the UK the operators are looking at. The push to introduce cut-continues to dominate the mar-

\*Our advantage is that cable is not just about the modern but about the broadband network." Adam Singer, chief executive of TCI International, said.

Bell Cablemedia is working with Telewest and Nynex on a test in Surbiton. Surrey, which will help the companies devel-

According to cable experts, ing boxes with cable modems.

Internet and other interactive services to homes and businesses. The first is to use existing technology, which allows a limited degree of two-way communication. The second is to furnish subscribers with an addon box to supplement the ex- main network is being isting equipment. The most established. expensive, but most effective op-

by cable's indifferent performance in the UK market. As General Cable's results, announced yesterday, suggest, the industry has struggled to win customers in the crucial "buildout" period, during which the

The industry faces competition would be to replace exist- tion for both its main products - telephony and television. BT

# General Cable revenue up 58%

General Cable saw revenues last year, as the company reached the mid-way point in its network construction. But losses climbed to £21m from £18.3m. or 8.1p a share, writes Mathew Horsman.

The company yesterday stressed that the results were expected, adding that it achieved

in the second half of the year. 26 per cent for residential teleclimb by 58 per cent to £52m. The company's three cable operators, Cable Corporation. Birmingham Cable and York-shire Cable Group, saw combined network reach climb by 37 per cent, with strong growth in both residential and business telephony. Revenues per subscriber rose by 8 per cent to about £153 a year.

Penetration rates were about the future." he said.

phony and 23 per cent for ca-ble, slightly higher than the industry average. Sir Anthony Cleaver, company chairman, said penetration rates were not an accurate guide to future growth. "The emergence of a host of new interactive services, such as the Internet, will substantially add to revenues in

something customers can't get elsewhere," a cable industry spokesman said. "Interactive services are an obvious choice." To compete, "the industry has to work together," Sir Anthony Cleaver, chairman of Gen-Meanwhile, expectations that the market for pay-TV programming is set to grow were heightened yesterday, with the news that PolyGram, the film and music company, was join-ing forces with actor Robert Redford's Sundance company and US pay-TV film company

Showtime to launch a global

version of the Sundance pay-TV

Hays, the distribution and business services group led by Ronnie Frost (above) is set for the acquisition trail. Mr Frost says he is looking at deals of more than £100m in Europe, with France and Germany the main priorities. The company has been seeking to expand it commercial division which includes document

exchange and courier businesses. "In fishing terms, I've had a lot of nibbles but no bites," he said. Mr Frost was speaking as he unveiled another set of upbeat results. Half-year profits rose by 20 per cent to £61m on sales up from

# Sears sells Millets in streamlining operation

INTEREST RATES

NIGEL COPE

The streamlining of the Sears retail group continued vesterday when it sold Millets, the outdoor retailer, to a management group for around £20m. Sears will book a total loss of £25m. on the disposal which involves 163 stores and net assets of one and Curtess.

+5911 +05

£17m. Millets made a modest, but unspecified profit last year

has now sold half a dozen store formats including Olympus Sports and a raft of shoe chains including Freeman Hardy Willis, Manfield, Trueform, Sax-

In the last 12 months Sears

Sears chief executive Liam Strong said: "This completes the disposal of our sports and leisure division and is in line with our strategy of focusing on a smaller number of major retail brands."

The management team that is buying Millets is led by Roy Crosland, the former managing director of Rymans the staing market. We are very excit-

former Kingfisher finance director, will be chairman. Mr Crosland, who bid unsucessfully for Rymans last year, said: "We think it is a very interesting opportunity. It is the only sizeable company in the

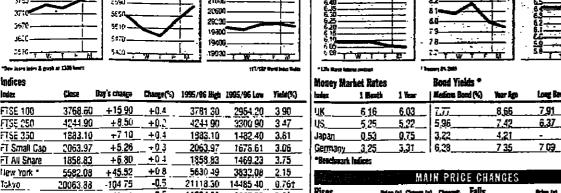
tioners. James Kerr-Muir, the

door goods market grew by 50 per cent between 1990-95. Mr Crosland says there will be no shop closures or redundancies. He plans to concentrate Millets more on outdoor clothoutdoor sector which is a growing, less on leisurewear. The management team is being

ed by it." According to market researchers Mintel, the outbacked by venture capital group 3i and has raised £22.5m for the deal which includes a sum for working capital.

The first branch of Millets

opened in 1894 but much later achieved a nation-wide pres-ence. Sears acquired the chain in 1986. Sears shares were unchanged yesterday at 95.5p.



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# PowerGen leads group to buy Australian plant

£378m to £465m.

MARY FAGAN Industrial Correspondent

PowerGen has embarked on one of its biggest overseas acquisition to date as leader of a consortium buying a Aus\$2.4bm (£1.1bn) generating plant and coal mine in Australia. The company's own equity stake in Yallourn Energy, which is pro-ject-financed, is £208m.

The move underlines PowerGen's continued drive over-seas in spite of its ambitions to become a vertically integrated power company in the UK. The Australian operation, 100 miles from Mclbourne, includes a 1,450MW generating complex and a mine with brown coal re-

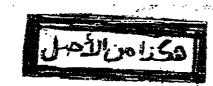
PowerGen's stake in the Australian project is 49 per cent. Japanese trading house, and three leading Australian insti-

industry in the state of Victoria. PowerGen is already involved in building and operating a gasfired power station in Portugal and in a combined generating and coal-mining scheme in Germany.

Investment Column page 18

PowerGen's Australian acquisition comes amid increasingly fierce competition in the home generation market. The soon-to-be-privatised nuclear industry has taken a surprising amount of market share in recent years and there has been growing pressure from independent companies building new combined-cycle gas turbine plants.

Recently British Gas announced its intention to enter the generating business with the 750MW Seabank power station at Avonmouth. PowerGen has been further squeezed by de-The partners include Itochi, a mands from the regulator, Professor Stephen Littlechild, that both generators dispose of subtutions. Yallourn is the first stantial power station capacity big generating company to be to enable more competition in sold in the privatisation of the



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The Body Shop should never have gone public in the first place. With its environmental stance, the company was always going to struggle to satisfy the conflicting demands

of its green

shareholders'

credentials and its

## Body Shop arrives up the Amazon, paddleless The whole "will they, won't they" saga of the Roddicks trying to buy back The Body Shop is now looking as messy as the banks. If times become hard, equity holders below the strength of the s colourful goo available in the company's stores. First, the news that Anita and Gor-

don were keen to take the company private oozed out badly last year, unsettling investor confidence and putting the Roddicks on the spot. Now the eco-friendly founders have decided against the whole plan as it would increase debts to a level that might affect the growth prospects of the business. It is a rum show all round. The Roddicks

are left running a public company while they would clearly sconer be running a private fiel-dom. Investors, too, are left in limbo. Whatever the Roddicks say about a commitment to increasing shareholder value it is now clear that they would sooner be up the Amazon discussing the finer points of tribal remedies for dandruff, or some such. Gordon Roddick, for example, was on a fact-finding trip to

The Roddicks' motives for seeking to take Body Shop private are plain enough, Like Alan Sugar, Richard Branson and Andrew Lloyd Webber before them, here are two entrepreneurs who would prefer to run their own show without the interference of the City. The green issue adds a further complication as the Roddicks do not have carte blanche to devote more profits to ecologi-

The plan has failed because the Roddicks realised that the buy-back would simply mean

cannot call in their capital in a company and must grin and bear it if dividends are cut or vanish. Banks can and sometimes do call in their loans, with disastrous consequences, of course, for the borrowers.
What is abundantly clear is that the Body

Shop should never have gone public in the first place. With its environmental stance, the company was always going to struggle to satisfy the conflicting demands of its green cre-dentials and its shareholders. It ended with compromise, and the company finds itself lambasted both by the City for being too green and the green groups for not being green enough. All this has happened while the company's growth has stalled and it faces serious problems in the US. Body Shop is between a rock and a hard place and is likely to stay there until the Roddicks finally manage to do a deal.

#### Mr Clarke blows his trumpet

Kemeth Clarke, modest as ever, took the Copportunity to remind MPs again yesterday that the economy is in pretty good shape, and "facing the most favourable economic circumstances that any of us in this House can remember." Britain has the lowest inflation for a generation, sustainable

of the foundations underlying this shining edifice. Has there been enough investment to

increase the economy's capacity? Do the new jobs available provide a sense of security and encourage the workforce to improve its skills? How can people be helped from benefits to

But there are also some more specific doubts about economic prospects even without raising such fundamental questions.

One of the things that could go wrong for Mr Clarke in the short term is an end to the fall in unemployment. Jobless figures lag the business cycle, and could this year start reflecting the slowdown in growth in 1995.

Surveys indicate that manufacturers have already started to cut employment. If it hapnened, this would certainly reinforce the feelbad factor and could kick the legs from under the housing market just as it is struggling to Another possible danger is faster earnings

growth. Pay settlements seem to have sta-bilised at about 3.5 per cent, but carnings "drift" - bonuses, overtime pay, and profitrelated payments - could return after an unusual absence. This would make it harder for the Government to hold the public sector pay bill flat.

Moreover, although it would make the voters feel better, pay increases would be one more influence fuelling higher consumer

tions. Mr Clarke wants more consumer spending so the economy reaches his 3 per cent growth target, but not so much that retail price inflation starts to creep up.

On the other hand, there is a risk of recession in manufacturing and a decline in the already weak investment figures. If exports stay weak too, the economy could slow further. The worst consequence of this for the Chancellor would be higher government borrowing, limiting the scope for tax cuts. This s without even mentioning the ultimate danger: that the economy flourishes but still does not persuade voters to return Mr Clarke to Number 11 after the general election.

#### Work begins for Kvaerner

ighs of relief can be heard coming from Othe boardrooms of Trafalgar House and Kvaerner. Nigel Rich, Trafalgar's chief executive, and his associates at Hongkong Land, seem finally to have got an embarrassing corporate disaster off their hands. And Eric Tonseth. Mr Rich's opposite number at Kvaerner, is close to exorcising the ghost of Amee, the UK contractor he failed to take over after a bruising battle last year.

Kvaerner had been courting Trafalgar House long before it approached Amee, and there is little doubt that the Norwegian com-

spending, along with maturing Tessas and share windfalls from building society flour nouncement of the agreed deal. Nevertheless, there is still a feeling that Kvaerner has not got quite what it hoped for. Its attempts to forge an understanding with Trafalgar betore now have always foundered on whether Kyaemer should take on the Cunard line and other bits it did not want.

But Kvaerner was desperate to get hold of a project management and construction company that could expand its world-wide oil and gas contracting business, especially in Asia. So, having failed to get Amec. Mr Tonseth bowed to Trafalgar's all-or-nothing request and risked buying the whole company. The Norwegians believe they could raise about £750m from selling off the noncore divisions of Trafalgar, Cunard being the biggest. Cunard's book value last September was £294m, but a lot has happened since then and whether the company is worth as much now is questionable.

Kvaerner prefers to talk about the synergy of the takeover, rather than the break-up value of Trafalgar. But yesterday's deal was driven less by industrial logic than by expediency. Kvaerner, lacking offshore contracts in Norway, stumbled when it came to leading its own larger international offshore contracting projects. With the Trafalgar takeover, Kvaerner has created the world's piggest offshore oil and gas fabrication business. Turning that into something that benefits shareholders is, however, a different and tougher job.

Economy: Promising signs of housing market revival and pick-up in consumer spending unlikely to change timetable, say analysts

# Cut in interest rates still on line

There was new evidence of the the first time since January

beginning of a recovery in the 1995 that their annual rate of

Prices, averaging just under
£62,000, were 0.2 per cent above

Halifax said: "The latest figure gives further support to our

per cent

their level a year earlier. It was view that a recovery is now tak- January.

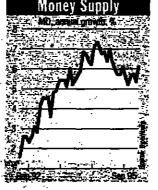
**DIANE COYLE Economics Correspondent** 

Fresh signs of recovery in the housing market and evidence of a pick-up in consumer spending are unlikely to derail a cut in interest rates later this week, analysts said yesterday. A surge in the growth of the narrow money measure M0 in February suggested that spending might have increased after a quiet start to the year.

Last month saw a big increase in narrow money mainly cash in circulation - according to Bank of England figures. The higher-than-expected 1 per cent jump took M0's annual rate of growth to 6.1 per cent from 5.2 per cent in January.

The annual growth of cash in circulation climbed to 6.4 per cent, the fastest since the end of 1994, following a 0.9 per cent jump during the month. Although the narrow money supply tends to be erratic from month to month – as the Treasury pointed out yesterday

the increase in its pace of growth could signal increased spending. "The evidence of liquidity sloshing around the system does not square with the notion that the economy is on its uppers," said Kevin Darlington, an economist at brokers Hoare Govett.



David Owen, at Kleinwort confirm that the economy was stronger in February." A CBI survey of the distributive trades due on Thursday will give a clearer indication of high

street spending last month.

Mr Owen said maturing Tessas might already be playing a part in boosting spending.

housing market from Halifax

building society yesterday, writes Diane Coyle. It reported

a 0.9 per cent increase in house prices last month. This was the

seventh successive rise and the

piggest for two years.

Benson said: "The figures do interest, heavily skewed to- cent. M0 has been growing wards the first quarter. According to recent figures, retail deposits with banks and building societies fell by more than £2bn in January, mainly due to Tessa withdrawals.

City analysts do not expect the buoyant money figures to stand in the way of the widely About £20bn-worth mature anticipated quarter-point re- rapid growth in the use of cash.

growth has been positive.

This follows a 1.4 per cent

February increase in Nationwide's more volatile price index, published on Friday. It put the

year-on-year increase at 0.9

this year, plus around £6bn in duction in base rates to 6 per faster than its 0-4 per cent monitoring range for more than three years without arousing alarm. Factors such as low interest rates, meaning there is little lost interest cost to holding cash, Lottery mania and higher numbers of tourists have been taken as explanations for

ing place." Experience at Hal-

ifax Estate Agencies also indi-

cated that a recovery had

average price rise during 1996

and a 10 per cent increase in the

number of housing transac-

tions. The number of loans ap-

proved, a leading indicator of

transactions, turned up in

Halifax predicts a 2 per cent

started.

"The money supply is just one piece of the jigsaw. It will not make any difference to what the Chancellor decides on Thursday," said lan Shepherdson at HSBC Fresh signs of housing revival

However, Simon Briscoe, an economist at Nikko Europe, said: "Signs of consumer strength will lead to talk that this week's rate cut will be the last for some months."

Other recent figures have

shown that manufacturing in-

dustry is stagnating and infla-

tion declining. Most forecasts

of the economy point to fur-

ther falls in the Government's

target measure of inflation.

Chancellor Kenneth Clarke and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, hold their monthly meeting on Thursday afternoon. The Bank is expected to introduce the lower rate either late on Thursday or on Friday



Man with the plan: Eddie George is expected to introduce a rate cut on either Thursday or Friday

# Nuclear expenses sparks row

MARY FAGAN Industrial Correspondent

A political row has erupted over the fund to be set up to cover future nuclear decommissioning costs in the soon-to-be-privatised

industry. It has emerged that the annual payments made by British Energy, the company running the nation's most modern reactors, will be only £15m - up to 50 per cent less than originally envisaged by the

John Battle, shadow energy spokesman, vesterday attacked the Government for playing a "sleight of hand game" with the privatisation at the expense of

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demanding an immediate explanation from ministers. "They are fattening the com-

pany up to make it a more attractive prospect for investors at the expense of taxpayers. "What I fear is that in five years time the Public Accounts

ommittee will condemn this as having been a shabby deal for the public but by then it will be too late," he said. Mike Kirwan. Energy's finance director, said

that the "surprisingly small" annual payments can be explained by lower decommissioning costs and the Government actuaries' view of what an

the public and said he would be investment portfolio should sonable way of rewarding and achieve. The amount put into the so-called segregated fund will be to cover costs stretching

out over many years.

The debate over the £2.5bn privatisation took a further new twist when John Robb, British Energy's chairman, said he was in favour of share option schemes for directors and employees in spite of the recent rows over "fat cats" in private British

He said: "I am talking about pushing them right down the management chain."

Mr Robb said that although

motivating senior manage-ment". He said that in a company such as British Energy. they could be awarded to those earning £20,000 to £30,000 per

British Energy is still locked in battle with the Government over the financial structure of the company once it is sold, including the level of debt it will carry, the expected profitabili-

#### ty and the value of the assets. Mr Robb said: "The Government has an obligation to maximise sales value to taxpayers. The board is in a different pono decisions have been taken "l sition. We also have an obligation to the new owners." have always found them a rea-

#### IN BRIEF

#### Sweb abandons doorstep selling

South Western Electricity's gas marketing arm has agreed to abandon doorstep selling under pressure from the local trading stan-dards authorities. An investigation into alleged aggressive selling techniques began after complaints to the Gas Consumers Council. There were fears in the industry that the issue would overcloud the opening of the domestic gas market in the south west in April this year. Ian Powe, director of the GCC, yesterday called on all suppliers to think twice about mounting a doorstep campaign.

#### Downbeat forecast from Brussels

The European Commission will publish new, gloomier economic forecasis tomorrow. Economic affairs commissioner Yves-Thibault de Silguy told Euro MPs yesterday that the Commission's growth forecast for 1996 had been revised down to 2 per cent from the 2.6 per cent prediction it published in November. Although the report will not explicitly assess how individual countries are faring in their efforts to meet the Maastricht targets for government deficits and debt, the weaker forecast will be taken as casting more doubt on the ability of some members to qualify for the single currency on time.

#### **IBM buys Data Sciences**

IBM has bought Data Sciences for £95m just a fortnight before the company was due to float on the London Stock Exchange with a price tag of around £80m through a placing arranged by James Capel. The Famborough-based computer services group was a £67m management buyout from Thorn EMI in July 1991. It has 1,700 employees in the UK. Netherlands and Germany.

#### US consumer spending slips

US consumer spending dropped unexpectedly by 0.5 per cent in January, the biggest decline since August 1992. Economists blamed winter storms and the Federal Government shutdown, and predicted a February rebound. Personal income rose by 0.1 per cent,

#### taking the savings rate to 5.3 per cent. Official reserves rise by \$51m

The overall level of the UK's official reserves rose by \$51m in February, bringing the end February reserves to \$44.95bn (£29,366m) compared with \$44.96m (£29,726m) at the end of January. But he underlying change in the reserves was a fall of \$97m. | rectly across the mountains

# British Gas hits tough times in **South America**

HUGH O'SHAUGHNESSY

British Gas's multi-billionpound plans for expansion in Latin America are under severe pressure as its projects in Chile and Argentina are buffeted by competition and those in Bolivia, Brazil and Colombia by political and commercial

British Gas has been working with a US partner Tenneco on the \$865m TransGas scheme to bring gas across the Andes from Argentine Patagonia to southern Chile and eventally to Santiago. The city of five million people is the capital of a country whose economy grew at around 8 per cent last year and where explosive economic growth is expected to lead to a doubling of electricity gener-

tion within the next 10 years. Although the pipeline plans were well known last year no important construction work has started on the line and British Gas has not announced any deals with potential customers

Building began last October on a much shorter \$284m rival line, GasAndes, from the Argentine city of Mendoza, di-

from Santiago. It should be finished in May 1997, possibly before the British Gas/Tenneco line arrives and will provoke stiff competition and much-reduced

GasAndes is a joint venture between Chilgener, a Chilean power company, the Nova Cor-poration of Canada and other companies and has already announced initial deals to supply four gas-fired generation plants near the capital.

"I think GasAndes has stolen a big march on TransGas and I don't kow if they will be able to catch up", said one leading Chilean banker here yesterday.

George Ferguson, local British Gas manager, told the Independent that contracts would soon be announced and that the TransGas line could be built faster than the rival line as TransGas goes over lower mountain altitudes. He also cast doubt on GasAndes's ability to provide the assured volumes that he claimed his project could provide. "TransGas plans to sell 90 billion cubic metres of gas over 25 years," he said.

He rejected reports there that British Gas will accept operating a loss-making operation in Chile to secure its place in the

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			London

# US traumas for healthcare firms

Edited by Magnus Grimond

shift its unfocused conglomerate image have been punctured since Johnson & and the bulk of its profits still come and last year it completed its exit Johnson found a target elsewhere, but from pharmaceuticals and dumped backed by Smith's £500m war chest for surgeons' gloves, the last of its acquisitions, the shares should be held. commodity-type businesses. But despite all this effort, the City

still pigeon-holes Smith in the "sound but dull" sector of the market. Yesterday's results only confirmed that view. The market clipped 0.5p from the share price to 188p after underlying pretax profits advanced an unexciting 5 per cent to £180m in 1995, after stripping out restructuring costs and disposals from both the last two years. Integration costs of £14.6m wiped out the £8.7m contribution from acquisitions. mainly Acufex, the surgical instruments business, and Homecraft, a maker of aids for the old and disabled.

But these were respectable results for a year in which medical budgets continued to face downward pressure - selling prices slipped by 0.5 per cent last vear - and with the main European and US markets growing at a rather anaemic 3 per cent. Overall volume growth of 8 per cent, the best for some time, was boosted by the UK, where the establishment of a unified sales-force 18 months ago helped the rate of sales growth more than double to 12 per cent.

Continental Europe, where the same "one company" strategy has been in place for some time, was up a handy 8 per cent. The problems lay in areas exposed to the US market, where healthcare is in the midst of a well-publicised upheaval. The impact of so-called healthcare management operations on big pharmaceutical groups is being paralleled in Smith's case by the concentration of hospital groups, notably the merger of Columbia and Hospital Corporation of America which created a buying group as big as the NHS.

The increased power of customers hit businesses skewed to the US market, namely trauma, endoscopy and orthopaedic implants. Sales growth in these operations failed to come anywhere near the double-digit increases notched up in wound management (Elastoplast and the like) and casting and support. The outlook is for another couple of years with growth held to around 5 per cent in the area.

But even if the US proves to be a rel-

ative drag in the short-term. Smith's artificial bone and cartilage products could provide plenty of excitement further out. If current development work is successful, and the chance is around 50 per cent, they could open up markets worth several billion dollars by the

Profits of around £190m this year

(F) - Final (I) - Interes (III) - Time months

#### No nonsense at JD Wetherspoon

The rise and rise of JD Wetherspoon is a marvellous corporate success story. Founded in 1979 by a Kiwi barrister who liked his local pub so much he bought it, the chain came to the market in 1992 with 44 pubs and has since grown to over 130. Since flotation, the shares have soared from 160p to 743p yesterday, up 21p after the announc-ement of another strong set of interim

After a 43 per cent rise in sales for the six months to January, pre-tax profits rose by a similar amount to £5.5m, earnings per share were 49 per cent better at 14.8p while the dividend increased by a more sober 13 per cent

and cheap beer. They were neither prudent shareholders and competition

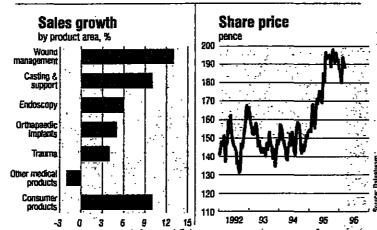
from drinks.

A huge success so far then, but the steep trajectory of the share price has given investors justifiable cause for concern in recent months. Their worries include the enormous cost of maintaining an ambitious opening programme, a declining rate of likefor-like sales growth, the group's de-preciation policy and increasing competition from large brewers who are increasingly encroaching on Wetherspoon's niche.

Chairman Tim Martin believes he has an answer for all these concerns. Having secured a new £50m debt facility from his bankers, he reckons the threat of another rights issue has receded. Even if Wetherspoon spends £35m a year for the next five years, which is the plan, the company should not have to come back to shareholders during that period.

Latest figures from new pub openings show that larger, town-centre sites outside London are generating much better weekly sales than some of the older pubs - which should keep Wetherspoon's success was to see a sales growth motoring, a change in acgap in the market for no-nonsense counting policy means that depreciapubs, with no music, no-smoking areas tion should satisfy even the most

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- Market	value: £2.07	ibn, share pi	rice 188p		
Five year record	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Tib 300 <b>4ci (Ma</b> )	792	858	949	965	1026
Pre-tax profits (£m)	70.3	155	165	-5.5	177
Eகார <b>ு மூக காக</b> ்க (ரசும் இ	<u> </u>	10.2	10.6	<b>-4.96</b>	10.3
Dividends per share (pence)	4.44	4.62	4.91	5.28	5.65



Elastoplast to keyhole surgery group would put the shares on a prospective Smith & Nephew has worked hard to multiple of 16. Acquisition prospects Wetherspoon did not rely on food sales the shares currently trade on a prospective Wetherspoon did not rely on food sales tive price earnings ratio of 24 times this year's profits, which looks quite high enough. Fundamental measures may. however, not be the best guide to this share's sustainability. If Bass or one of the other big brewer/pub owners decided to swoop they might well be prepared to pay a full price for a company that has consistently delivered the goods. Hold on.

#### The sun is still shining on Hays

Hays, the distribution and business services group, has proved a remarkably resilient performer since it came to the market in 1989. The shares have quadrupled since and earnings have

grown by an average of 16 per cent. Chairman Ronnie Frost has developed a three-legged structure based on as document delivery and personnel

that is clearly working.

The good news continued yesterday with pre-tax profits up 20 per cent to £60.8m in the six months to December and earnings up by 21 per cent.

Profits in the distribution division increased by 12 per cent, with volumes with existing customers such as Wait-rose and Ford increasing and new contracts signed. One of Hays strengths is its relatively small exposure to the cutthroat supermarket sector where margins are being squeezed. It only has two supermarket clients - Tesco and Waitrose and so is less exposed than rivals such as Christian Salvesen. The only hiccups were in Europe where the Paris strikes had a limited impact on the delivery business in France. In Germany the market remains difficult.

The commercial division, which includes document exchange and courier services had a good six months with profits up 20 per cent to £18m. But the star performer was personnel, which specialises in temporary jobs in accountancy and information technology as well as the building professions such as architects and surveyors, Profits there increased by 38 per cent as the company benefited from the trend towards more flexible employment.

The plan is to expand in Europe as the UK accounts for three-quarters of group sales. The company is looking for a sizeable acquisition in France or Germany particularly in commercial services.

Panmure Gordon is forecasting profits of £131m for the full year. With the shares down 6p yesterday to 393p they are on a forward rating of 18. High but still a good bet for the longer term.

## John Willcock CITY DIARY

# Lazards gets on the back of a winner

Tally ho! Nicholas Jones, a managing director at Lazards, the merchant bank, is subject to envious comment in the City, and it's nothing to do with mergers and acquisi-tions. His wife Veronica owns part of a racehorse that has just notched up seven successive victories. Easthorpe is running at the Grand Annual, a two-mile steeplechase at Cheltenham next week. Sounds like a good punt.

The Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, is losing his rightwing conscience. Yesterday David Ruffley, Mr Clarke's principal special adviser, resigned from the Civil Service after being selected as the prospective parliamentary candidate for Bury St Edmunds, a safe Tory seat. Mr Ruffley, a keen golfer and Manchester United supporter, has served Mr Clarke in various guises since 1991 as a speech writer and political adviser. Last night he said he had never tried to counsel the Chancellor on his infamous rumpled appearance. "He's very strong-willed when it comes to his suits and shoes." Mr Ruffley said. And how did he think his former master was doing in the Ken versus Eddie fight on interest rates? 'City sentiment is that the Chancellor is probably rather a good judge of setting mone-tary policy." Yes, minister.

Forget prawn sandwiches at the agm, here's a shareholder perk worth having. Man-ganese Bronze Holdings, which makes metal powders and components for the taxi industry, vesterday launched a shareholder discount voucher scheme that will allow investors to get free rides Shareholders with 200 shares or more (worth about £450) will be entitled to a £5 discount on a journey in its modern, wheelchair-accessible Fairway Taxis. The Fairway was itself launched in 1989 and combines the traditional black cab shape with a modern interior. The drivers in return get £10 in cash to spend at their service agents. Taxa!



What on earth is John Archer, managing director of Comtec, doing up this telegraph pole? The Cambridge-based communications products distributor may have just been bought by ement team, but this seems an inadequate excuse for such exuberance. Mr Archer is flanked by Geoff Davies of Lloyds Bank and Glen Facer of Comtec on his left, and John Buck of Comtec and Andrew Fraser of 3i on his right. Mr Archer said yesterday that Comtec's ability to offer products in "all three transmission media – fibre optic, copper and ra-dio frequency – combined with a high level of technical sup-port places us in a pre-eminent position in the industry."

Up a pole.

Ronnie Frost, executive chairman at Hays, the distribution and business services company. has turned the firm's press briefings into a family affair. At last year's final results Mr Frost addressed the press wearing a bright red tie with teddy bears on it, to make, he explained, his daughter Jane's wedding the previous weekend. Yesterday he gave an update: Jane is expecting a new issue in the shape of identical twins. Analysts will get to find out the gender of the twins at the next. finals. Saves putting announcements in the Times, I suppose.

Questionable career moves of our time Peter-Ward resigned the post of chief executive of

Rolls-Royce in a huff last year to head up Cunard, the ailing Trafalgar House subsidiary, i order to turn it around. What will he do now that Kvaerner plans to flog off Cunard as soon as it buys Trais?

Stirring stuff from Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, yesterday as he addressed the Japan Society on the subject of deregulation and prosperity. Mr Lang gushed: "We are not just selling computers and cars to Japan, we are also selling replica 1930s Arsenal shirts, Tudor Cottages and ragworms to Japanese anglers!" The balance of payments is in

plan to

#### COMPANYRESULTS 89A Group (F) 66 8m (63 9m) 16.5p (10 7p) 6p (4.75p) 25 1m (19.2m) 43.5g (33.05g) 16.5g (13.75g 21.7m (16.4m) 12.64p (10.99p) 3.2p (2.85p) Close Brothers (I) -3 4m (-1 94m) -7 3p (-3 5p) 0.3p (0.3p) Carowell Parker (1) 41 Sm (42.4m) General Cable (F) Hays (I) Strum Justina (F) 86 1m (79 5m) Perions Foods (F) 431m (358m) 996m (897m) 177m (-5.5m) 10.29p (L4.96p) 5 95p (5.28p) 45 2m (31 6m) 5 55m (4 76m) 14.8p (12.4p) 3.1p (2.75p)

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Every Tuesday in the THE INDEPENDENT section two

# ICI moves into South America

Magnus Grimond

Imperial Chemical Industries is leading decorative paints group after agreeing to pay \$390m (£255m) for Bunge Paints. The deal comes just weeks after the UK chemicals group sig-nalled its readiness to step up its acquisitions strategy after revealing a potential £2bn-to-£3bn war chest at the time of its

annual results. The latest deal takes ICI's paint sales close to 1.2 billion litres a year, the first time any company has exceeded 1 billion

IN BRIEF

Heavy exceptional charges have hit profits at Perkins Foods. Profits for the year to December fell from £20m to £4m due to charges

relating to the sale of the group's mushroom and shellfish busi-

nesses. Further charges were incurred at the German pizza op-

eration where the market remains difficult. The company has been suffering from the over-supply of the European pizza mar-ket which has affected sales and margins.

Rationalisation at the Parker Knoll chair manufacturing division

caused losses to deepen at furniture group Cornwell Parker. Losses rose to £3.4m in the six months to January compared with £1.9m

last year. However, trading profit increased from £403,000 to £1.7m

on sales that were flat at £41m. The dividend was held at 0.3p.

Bristol & West, one of Britain's top-10 building societies, reported

yesterday an 8.4 per cent rise in 1995 pre-tax earnings to £77m.

After taking account of losses from its Hamptons estate agency

business, which B & W has now sold, group profit before tax was £38m. The society said it had no plans to change its mutual sta-

tus, although it has been mentioned as a possible merger candi-

date. B&W's cost/income ratio fell to 52.9 per cent from 54.8 per

cent, largely thanks to the reduction of estate agency branches.

British Polythene Industries revealed that acquisitions lifted prof-

its 31 per cent to £25.1m last year as it announced its thirteenth

purchase in as many months. Underlying volumes were flat, with

any increase coming from acquired businesses. The building sector was "very quiet", while the dry summer "totally decimated" sales of silage stretch wrapping to farmers. Margins recovered in the second half as raw material prices fell. Costs have risen

strongly since December, but demand is in better balance with

supply, according to BPI. It is paying £7.5m in cash and shares for Bibby & Baron, a plastic and paper bag maker based in Bury.

EVC International, Europe's largest producer of PVC plastics, is to buy back up to 5 per cent of its shares. The news came as

the Amsterdam-quoted group, in which ICI has a 15.8 per cent

stake, revealed that profits were almost wiped out in the second

half of 1995, hit by a price collapse following the abrupt ending of Chinese imports. For the year, net profit soared to 163.9m

guilders, up from a pro forma 86.3m guilders in 1994, on sales up 3 per cent to 2.53bn guilders.

Losses deepen at Cornwell Parker

**Bristol & West on the rise** 

Acquisitions lift BPI

**EVC** buys back shares

**Exceptionals damage Perkins** 

million litres of paint last year, to become South America's equivalent to the whole of ICI's continental European operations, with a sales value worth over \$400m.

From being hardly represented in the area, ICI will gain leading market positions in the countries comprising the Mercosur countries - Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and, through a joint venture, Bolivia. Bunge will give it strong brand names such as Coral, Alba and Inca.

The British group is paying

by the assumption of debt. Bunge had not assets of \$145m in 1994, when it made profits of \$55m. However, profits were lower last year, hit by pressure on margins caused by rising raw material prices and restructur-

ing charges. ICI chief executive Charles Miller Smith said the Bunge acquisition was exactly in line with the strategy of expanding the paints business in the fastest growing areas of the world. It would provide "a sound platform on which ICI Paints can

Brazil. Bunge produced 200 of the acquisition represented business in the Latin American provement programme. region." The impact on ICI's earnings will be neutral in the first year and thereafter it would add to earnings, he said. The seller is Bunge Group, a

private Bermuda-registered agribusiness group with opera-tions mainly in Argentina and Brazil. The deal follows a period of expansion for ICI's paints operation, which acquired Grow Paints and Fuller O'Brien both of the US last summer. The business saw profits dip from £122m to £107m last year and is currently

litres. Based in Sao Paulo in \$295m in cash, with the balance build a growing and profitable the subject of a profit im-ICI also announced that Hon Chiu Lee, chairman and man-

> opment Company of Hong Kong, has been appointed a non-executive director. Mr Lee is a non-executive of several leading Hong Kong companies including Cathay Pacific Airways, Hang Seng Bank and Sime Darby Hong Kong. He has good connections with mainland China, serving on the consultation

expand aging director of Hysan Devel-TOM STEVENSON

tative council, and his appointment will be seen as part of ICTs attempts to expand in the area.

The recovery at nappies to brake pads engineer BBA continued last year as the benefits of new chief executive Bob Quarta's efficiency drive shone through. The shares, which have more than tripled in three years. edged ahead by only 8p to 314p, however, with the market already expecting good figures.
Mr Quarta said: "1995 was a
very successful year for BBA. It
was also the year in which BBA
shifted decisively from re-

trenchment to expansion. A year ago we outlined our priorities for 1995: further focus to our activities through disposals and reorganisation: greater operational efficiencies and acquisitions to entrench and expand our positions where we are already strong. "These priorities have been

chieved. Our management focus now is on growth, both organically and through acquisitions.

The signal that more pur-chases might be in the pipeline accompanied a 41 per cent jump in profit before exceptional items to £118.5m (£84.3m). Having reached its target of double-digit profit margins a year early, the for-menty struggling group was able during the year to launch Switzerland's first contested public offer when it made a break up bid for Holvis, owner of the Fiberweb nappy business. The big jump in profits was achieved despite a 14 per cent

decline in sales during the year from £1.38bn to £1.18bn. BBA has said it wants to grow n Latin America and the Pacific Rim and is expected to focus on

electrical and transportation

businesses. It is thought to have

amassed a £300m war chest. Cheaper | car insurance Call Admiral now 0800 600 800

ADMIRAL

# **Close Brothers powers** ahead on volume rise

JOHN EISENHAMMER Financial Editor

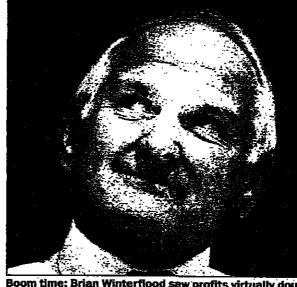
Strong volume growth at sustained profit margins powered a sharp rise in interim earnings at Close Brothers, the mer-chant bank specialising in medi-um-sized companies. The bank said yesterday it will be investing heavily in corporate finance and fund management to build up the third leg of business alongside specialised loan financing and market-making in small and medium-sized stocks.

Profits before tax during the six months ended 31 January 1996 rose by 32 per cent to £21.7m. With had debt provisions up in percentage terms on the same period the previous year, even though at a low lev-el in the cycle, the earnings growth was driven mainly by

"The whole loan book grew by 22 per cent last year because the economy is doing well and we have been maintaining marcins." said Rod Kent, managing director.

The interim dividend was increased by 12 per cent to 3.2p net. Earnings per share rose by 15 per cent to 12.64p. "It has been an absolutely splendid performance," Mr Kent said. The results follow on from Close Brothers' £53m rights issue in October, which increased the capital base by 50 per cent.

Michael Morley, chairman, focused on corporate finance as a key area for organic growth. 'We see considerable opportu-



Boom time: Brian Winterflood saw profits virtually double

nities for expansion of our activities amongst medium-sized UK quoted companies, at a time when many other merchant banks are concentrating on larger companies." The bank is also building up

its investment management capability, and is considering moving into private client investment. Specialised lending against assets to British companies accounts for 44 per cent of profits. By specialising in narrow areas, such as printing equipment, and concentrating on high-quality assets the group had kept bad debts low, Mr

Profits from market-making by Winterflood Securities, headed by Brian Winterflood, virtually doubled to £7.3m, or 34 per cent of the total.

Costs increased by 1.1 per cent as a percentage of operating income despite the strong investments. Mr Kent said that although the merchant banking sector as a whole was undergoing consolidation, Close Brothers is determined to pursue an independent strategy and was not seeking interest from other firms. Close Brothers shares closed down 11p yesterday at 379p on profit-



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# Soothsayers huddle around the calendar to locate the big crash

Wanna know what is going to happen to Wall Street? Here is the answer. The Dow Jones is going to

carry on its present rise to 6,000, which it will reach this spring. Then, during the week beginning Monday. 20 May, there will be a crash; the market will fall by about 15 per cent. The resulting panic will, however, prove a good buying opportunity in June, for a recovery in prices will take place running up to a peak in the first quar-ter of 1997. Then the long bull

market will be over. If this forecast seems overly brave in its precision let me say quickly that it is not mine, though I do find it extremely plausible. It comes from Robin Griffiths, head of technical analysis at James Capel, in his recent paper on the US market. For people who are not familiar with the term, technical analysis means chartism. This, for the sceptics, means the black-box art of examining charts for patterns that might have some predictive signifi-cance: head and shoulders,

double bottoms and the like. The particular chart which Capels note is the one reproduced on the left here, which shows the extent to which the Dow has deviated from its 12month moving average. They argue that momentum is such that in the near term the Dow will



ECONOMIC VIEW

HAMISH MCRAE

indeed race on towards 6,000, but that the scale of the deviation is already such that the risks are akin to those of 1986/87. If the index reaches 6,000 before May, the deviation will be the

largest ever.
This has always in the past been followed by some kind of crash. But if that crash (or corit) was only 15 per cent the up-trend would still be intact - the Dow would still be above the 12month moving average. That scale of a correction would obviously be very disruptive, but chartists would argue that since

good moment to panic". I would add that risk-averse investors might consider bailing out a bit other people do.

The fun will not, however, be entirely over. James Capel argues that we are now towards the end of the second phase of rection, as analysts like to call a conventional three-wave bull market. After the coming crash, there will be the third leg. By the end of June, there should therefore be an opportunity to buy back in and take advantage of the final fling of the bull market.

Risk-averse investors might bail out early on the grounds that it is better to panic before others do

the trend would still be intact, the picture they project cointhe bull market could continue cides with fundamentals. The for a while longer. The period of maximum danger is May-June, with that week of 20 May has been noted by many inlooking, in Capels' words, "a

earlier on the grounds that it is always better to panic before

Charts are a useful tool when

high valuation on US equities

vestment houses working from

fundamental values, rather than

**Interest Rates** 

The point here is obvious. On their reckoning we are also in the danger zone, just as we were in 1986 and 1987. Share prices were, however, also in the "extremely speculative" in 1993 and though there was an adjustment, there was nothing like the 1987 crash. Further, the BCA speculation index has been on red alert since the summer of last year, so following too closely its buy/sell signals would mean

vice not on the pictures that the

charts make but rather on a se-

ries of value indicators, with

quite a lot of attention paid to

monetary data. They were mon-

etarists long before it came

into vogue in the 1980s and have

remained monetarists since it

went out of fashion too. One of

their yardsticks for valuing a

market is their speculation in-

dex, and the movements of this

since 1980 are shown in the

right-hand graph.

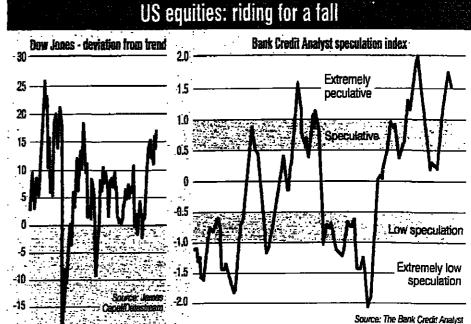
one would lose out on a very solid bull market. BCA has, to its credit, been stressing for some months that

from charts: things like priceearnings ratios, or a comparison between equity yields and bond bull market is intact and that yields. But for a second opinion further rises in share prices are on the health of the market, let's on the cards. It has reckoned go to another set of black-box that despite this, the risk/reward merchants, the editors of The ratio for investment in US Bank Credit Analyst, a firm of shares is unattractive and has specialist investment advisers based in Montreal. The BCA team base their adderweight positions.

It takes quite a lot of courage to bail out of bull markets too early. If, however, one takes the very long view of investment it may make sense to do so. The argument here is that it is more important not to lose money in bear markets than it is to catch the maximum gain in bull markets. If you believe this, then following the BCA people is a good long-term common-sense guide to investment.

If I have one hesitation about these dire warnings it is this. Virtually everyone involved in the US market is worried about pre-sent levels. Many of the big investment banks are expecting the market to end the year lower than it is now. Others are doing some analysis of the average length of the post-war bear markets to see how long the bad news is likely, on past experience, to last. But the market continues rising, and while it feels exposed, it does not yet have that heady, euphoric, outrageous buzz that would signal a crash was on the cards.

We may feel that buzz by



May, and James Capel deserve all the credit for their courage in setting a date when the danger is at its peak. But there is cur in October - but it is surely

comes this autumn rather than next spring. That is a more conventional view - that crashes ocan alternative scenario which is just as likely as the sell in May.

∵82 84 86

We in the UK have not been so mesmerised as the US by the boom in high-technology stocks

surely just as plausible. This is buy back in June, sell in Januthat the bull market runs on more or less intact through the spring and into the autumn, with maybe a plateau in the summer.

Then the final speculative peak

ary 1997 scenario.

What does all this mean for Britain? Historically the UK market has tracked the US one. It would be astounding if

toric range, are not at the extreme levels in the US. We have not been so mesmerised by the boom in high-technology stocks. if only because we have far fewer high-technology companies. There is still some value here. So while we should expect to be affected by the fall-out from the US, rationally the crash here need not be as dramatic as the crash there. The trouble with the word "rational", though, is that reason, like goodness, has nothing to do with it. Meanwhile put a ring around 20 May in

a similar crash here. But valu-

ations on the UK market, while

towards the top end of their his-

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Series March Apri May June Energy Brent Crude IFE 530pm Apr 1740 May 1689 Jun 634 Vol: 30,578 Tenes 530pm p	(S/barrel) *chg Yr ago -019 1788 -019 1758 -016 1735 index: 17.82 revious day, "see dity Ind Basse daste	3700 88/8 102/33 127/53 146/68 Ges oil (\$// PE close May 15000 Apr 15700 Wey 15200 Vot: 17 age prices average 1 CCS	3750 47/182 96/72 115/87 tonne) "ctg" 275 -225 -175 ,048 p to week	3800 18/41 45/76 69/96 90/111 WITI 6pm Apr 910 May 1830 Jun 1780 Jun 1780 31 Dec %	Si81 25/107 47/34 67/137  Products † Spot CF NW Su Leaded Gasclin Naphtha EC Gascli Heavy Fuel Older Di Pacoru 166 GCSi	(S/tonne) rope ne 183/186 170/17: 104/104 nr price
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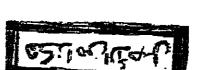
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Hong Aong Beer	284482	089788	430	(Accum Units)	1980	2077	421	Winde Recovery Inc.	46076	492.80	d0.51
UK Index Jazzen Index	£133481 £110887	2140926 211751	625 000	Equity Income (Accum Units)	3494 4732	3895 5004	d5.0 d5.0	Wwide Recovery Acc American Growth Inc	46122 28583	49329 3552	051 0001
US Index	€186841		375	European & General	6180	6535	084 084	American Growth Acc	295£3 177£4	315.52	0.01
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agai & General (UT	Macage	5) 나비		(Accum Units) General	1311.3 6770	13867 7160	188 376	High Income Japanese Gwith Inc	TTLS3 248.25	11908 232.38	3.69 d0.01
i Rinyleigh Rd, Hutton, B Enquirtee: 01277 227300	restende Desilne:	, Essex 01277 890	365	(Accum Units)	196.B	208.2	3.78	Japanese Gwith Acc PEP Growth	218.25 143.86	232.38 153.80	0.01
Cash Accum	5773 55600	5773	65.71 62.56	Gâr income (Accum Units)	6067 17781	60.76 178.06	&23 673	PEP Bond	5042	52.50	082 770
Equity Det Equity Accum	7431.00	591.50 120300	<b>52.5</b> 8	Gold (Accum Units)	8410 8990	88.90 105.5	013 010	Asian Smir Mits Inc Asian Smir Mits Acc	14647 14682	15686 15703	004
Equity income UK Tectical Allocation	10460 6457	111.30 68.57	64.44 407	High Iscome	32.40	3430	464	American Smaller Cos.	Inc 188.59	20171	001
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Par Eastern Flood Interest	241.20 53.42	25650 5683	707	(Accum Units)	1619	1713	d0.61	UK Smaller Cos Inc UK Smaller Cos Acc	10216	109.27	145
GR Global Growth	90.87 84.50	96.36 69.59	613	international inc (Accum Lines)	175.2	1188 1852	439 439	Money Acc	107.49 63.59	114.57 53.59	1,45 5,88
and Bond	55.42	58.92	d5.57	Japan & Gen	4210 45x0	4440 4750		Lass American Gwth to Lass American Gwth #	K 3262	3439 3500	0.13
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LIK Index LIK Recovery	7385 10900	7754 11600	291 198	Managed Income	2950	3140	d438	Prudential Unit Trusts			•-
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# City tackles Manchester United's television ambitions

FT-SE 100 3768.6+15.9 The possibility of Manchester collect £40m to £50m of annual type of the collect £40m to £50m of annual revenue from TV. If United by-FT-SE 250 4244.9 +8.5 FT-SE 350 the stock market. Stories, which started in 1883.1 +7.1 Manchester, suggested such a SEAQ VOLUME development was near al-650.4m shares, club felt it unlikely - at least 37,257 bargains for some years.

The possibility of leading Gilts Index 93.90 +0.34

share price, pence

SONDJEM

ALVIS

football clubs running their own TV operations has become increasingly likely as the

United, with a much more highly developed commercial operation than any other club. would lead the charge. At the moment it is stand-

ing shoulder to shoulder with other Premiership clubs in supporting the existing BSkyB deal. But Whitehall is examining the Premiership link to see whether it could be judged

The 20 Premiership clubs

vision channel is intriguing passed the big broadcasters it could dramatically increase its take. Last night's clash with resent a huge pay day. Followthough sources closes to the ing the reserves and juniors would also keep the cup over-

flowing. United shares, in brisk trading, held at 267p, selling at 11 times last year's earnings. With TV interests they could enjoy a much higher rating.

The rest of the market had a mixed session with the FT-SE 100 index gaining 15.9 points to 3,768.6 after stripping out 5.9 for dividend payments; the supporting index moved to a new peak with an 8.5 gain to 4,244.9.

The bid for Trafalgar House contained no surprises. The shares rose 3.5p to 48.25p have a telling impact against the 50p offer. The preference shares gained 8.5p to 78p compared with the 80p bid. Greenalls and Bass.

MARKET REPORT of the year

JD Wetherspoon, the pubs chain, sent ripples of unease through the brewing and pubs sector. It accompanied another set of sparkling figures by adopting a new accounting policy - depreciating its freehold properties. As a relatively new company the exercise was not painful - a £400,000 hit.

debate in the drinks industry about its policy of not depreciating freeholds. Many ac-countants think it should.

If the Wetherspoon ap-proach was adopted it would have a telling impact on the retablished groups including

Alvis, the defence group, advance op to 163p fuelled by takeover talk and the benefits which could emerge if the Ministry of Defence's three country armoured vehicle programme makes headway. Hanson edged forward 1p to

190.5p on US buying. There is talk it is near to making a disposal which would enhance the value of the proposed demerger. One suggestion is the sale of its electricity operation,

Eastern, to a US utility.
Yorkshire Electricity, last week's hot tip for a utility bid, rose 9.5p to 803p. The shares were at one time up to 809p. The group is thought to have attracted the attention of at interest has yet to translate into

Argos the catalogue stores chain, was the latest to attract buy-back speculation, up 17p to 634p. House of Fraser was again tickled by talk of takeovers and boardroom changes. The shares gained 3p

Pharmaceuticals were firm. partly on a London drug con-ference. Zeneca added 21p to 1,288p as its Tomudex cancer treatment was launched. BTG, deeply involved in the new drug, put on 55p to 1,305p. Food retailers drew nour-

ishment from the forecast food prices will increase 4 per cent this year. Tesco, despite further profit downgrades, improved

7.5p to 278.5p.

Copyright Promotions, the merchandising group, jumped 22p to 104p as Mosaic Invest-

least two US groups but their terest in the Trocadero. Mosaic gained 3p to 34p and Tro-cadero 2p to 53p.

Peel, the property group, shaded 3p to 320p after buying in 367,000 shares at 320p. A tip sheet mention lifted Wakebourne, the computergroup, 4p to 24p. But Memory Corporation, which repairs efective chips, had another wounding session, falling 55p

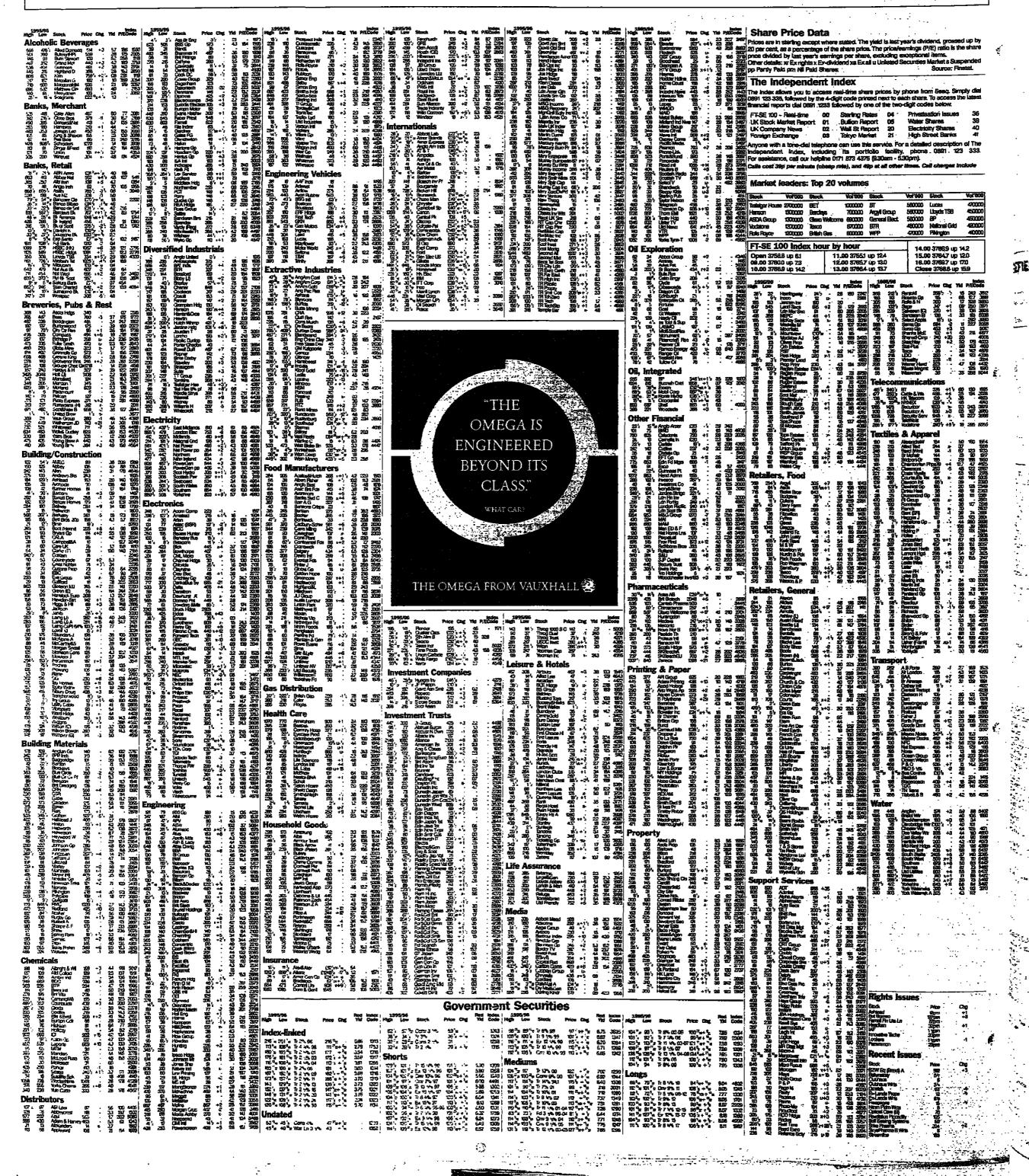
lapsed 225p in six days. Nynex, the cable group, was 3p firmer at 105p on reports it planned a merger with Telewest, unchanged at 136p.

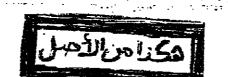
to 170p. The shares have col-

Canadian Pizza, which has failed to perform during its 30 months of quoted life, edged forward 2p to 72p as ABN Amro Hoare Govett made encouraging noises. Its recent £1.4m profit was not as poor as expected and Hoare thinks came to market at 200o.

☐Aberdeen Trust, the fund manager, firmed to 123p as Scottish Value, which is endeavouring to shake-up the investment industry, abandoned its predatory intent by selling its 14.3 per cent stake. The sale occurred as Abtrust linked with Phoenix Home, a US insurer, for an American drive. Phoenix is buying convertible notes which could translate into a 17.1 per cent

DEnviromed, the healthcare group, has almost eliminated debt by selling its dental equipment group side. Another disposal is near. It expects its diagnostic division to become its main earner. Profits will not be made this year but impress. The shares fell 3p to





are give

# Mare gives Gillespie more sleepless nights

horse race starts playing in his head, a terrible nightmare comes to Edward Gillespie. Cheltenham's managing director has had a vision of next Tuesday's Champion Hurdle and he bolts upright, shivering and sweaty, when he imagines Danoli leading home Mysilv.

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The former will have followers from every cranny in Ireland at Prestbury Park, while the latter, a gallant mare, is the prop-erty of the legions who form the Elite Racing Club. If they make the frame even Gillespie's extraordinary ability to bar the winners' enclosure to all but the closest of connections will be

The aftermath of Danoli's dustry that is Gillespie has success in the Sun Alliance not yet known Novices' Hurdle two years ago provided Gillespie with his greatest Rorke's Drift moment. In a feat of barring that would have impressed the top teams on the doors of Tramps and Stringfellows, he kepi what seemed to be an entire, shamrock-bedecked nation at bay (though he was reported to years to come. have lost his watch in the scrim-

maging). Gillespie concedes even he will be defeated this time if his nightmare forecast becomes reality. But he does not seem to mind that the collective outbreak will leave his outline in the Gloucestershire turf and footprints on the back of his suit jacket. The crowd reaction is much of what the Festival is running. about, and the roar that greets next Tuesday's opening event will be harmony to the ears of both Gillespie and true aficionados of jump racing.

What is worrying our man

2.30 Miss Nosey Oats (nb) 3.00 Airs Alibi

When the lights go out and a Cheltenham's boss dreads a popular invasion. Richard Edmondson reports.

> talising the Derby. Last year, as Ale and Mackeson in the Prince managing director of Epsom's Albert, Windsor, and Edward owners, United Racecourses, he even bought his round. This, presided over a first Saturday Derby which was received like a skunk at a forest picnic. A second weekend attempt, on 8 June, will tell us more about the man considered to be at the top of the management tree in

> British racing.
> Gillespie is slick, confident and self-assured and, on the whole, those that employ him "Last year everybody assumed find these traits more alluring a Saturday Derby would have its than do others.

But, in an infor the bril- developed that liance of its administration, he Teflon quality shines out and there is little that enduring a growing in- careers require fluence in the sport in the

Gillespie has developed that Teflon quality that enduring careers require. When he abandoned Cheltenham's Tripleprint Gold Cup card in December, five minutes after the first race was scheduled, it was a decision that would have blown others straight out of the water. But an apology, a smile and a £600 fine later, Gillespie was back up and

Now comes the big one: to resuscitate a moribund Derby, a race, Gillespie insists, which has to be taken back to the people. Well at least he mixes with them. This interview was conmore is his future task of revi- ducted over Newcastle Brown

when it comes to getting a

good press, is a manoeuvre that journalists find hard to re-The truth is, though, that Gillespie is fluent both in word and mind, and he is not afraid of saying sorry (some would say he gets a lot of practice). He apologises for the 1995 Derby. "Last year everybody assumed

> tum and afterwards they realised more should have been done to promote the race," he said. "It was a failing from all points of view, including ours. We spent too much

time changing the physical side of Epsom, moving the paddock, changing days and spon-sors. We didn't spend the time and money to broaden the general profile of the race. "An undeniable criticism af-

terwards was that the race didn't have that extra zip, which it used to have in terms of getting into feature and social pages. There was complacency all round.'

One serious problem about the Derby is that it suffers in comparison to the Grand National, a more televisual event with a diversity of characters. "That is one of the success stories of the Grand National, the media makes something about every single horse," Gillespie said. "In Flat racing it's more difficult, because there is a narrower base. Half the field will be Arab-owned for example.

"The unwritten story is that one of our problems in getting people to identify with the [Derby] horses has been the Arab domination. The owner doesn't say a lot, the trainers daren't say a lot and you don't get much out of the lockeys either. You don't get the great tri-umvirate talking up their horses.
"By the time we get down to

the 16 or so horses that run in the race this year it will have been our job to make sure that everyone knows something in-credibly important about each of those runners. I'd like to get a grey in there, and a threelegged horse if possible."

Negotiations are taking place with both Lanfranco Dettori and Lester Piggott to promote the race. "Frankie Dettori is a very important figure for us, especially as he has not won the Derby," Gillespie said. "Our intention is to get him on things like Live And Kicking and other children's television so they get to know him. People can identify with him and want him to be successful."

And Lester Keith Piggott, the most successful jockey in Epsom history with nine victories? "Oh, he'll come out of retirement to ride the three-legged grey."

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Impeccable Timing (Leicester 2.50) NB: Shallow River

(Sedgefield 5.00)



Golden Miller's statue is the backdrop for Edward Gillespie

## **Band will not play at Aintree**

ing setback and will miss the times) but won't run again this year's winner Royal Athlete Martell Grand National at Liverpool on 30 March.

son Mark said yesterday: 'Smith's Band has had a suc- leaves Mrs Pitman with three to be made.

**NEWBURY** 

Pienie area \$3 per car plus \$3 per person

ing 4.40 Gracefield

GOING: Cond to Soft

2.10 Foots Errand 2.40 Alltime Dancer 3.10 Sublime Fellow 3.40 DISTINCTIVE (nap) 4.10 Hard-

■ Left-hand course with satif fences.
■ Course is SE of town near A'44. Railway station (service from London, Paddington) adjours course. ADMISSION: Members £13; Tattensalls £8; Silver Ring £3 (OAPs half price). CAR PARE: Free;

VINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Distinctive (5.40) won

at Letcewer last Tuesday. LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Dan De Man (4.40) sent 204 miles

LONG-DISTANCE RUNNIERS: Data De Man (4.40) sent 204 miles from Miles I. Shiriali's Colon stable in North Yorkshire: Royal Segos (2.10) & Rom For Cover (4.40) sent 173 miles from Mrs N Duffield's Azmouth stable in Devon; Imperial Honora (4.40) sent 157 miles from N Lampard's Kingsbridge stable in Devon; Brown Robber (3.10) sent 149 miles from Mrs B Henderson's Folly Cate stable in Devon;

Duballow Lodge (3.40) sent 137 miles from C Rarwell's Stoodleigh stable in Devon; Sabaki River (4.10) sent 131 miles from Mrs J Retter's Wistestone stable in Devon.

2.10 CHAPEL ROW NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £6,500 added 2m 4f

2.40 INKPEN NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,750 added 2m 110yds

season. It is nothing too serious

and hopefully, he will be back The trainer Jenny Pitman's for all the big races next season. Smith's Band's defection still

Smith's Band has had a train- cessful year (winning three entries in the big race. last and Superior Finish - both definite starters according to Mark - while a decision on the participation of Lusty Light has yet

BETTING: 2-1 Nemuro, 3-1 Sublime Fellow, 7-2 Fierce, 5-1 The Cammus 6-1 Too Sharp, 33-1 Brown Robber

3.40 TANGLEY HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,100 added 3m

2-5, LTU BOORD SMI

321FF0 DUNALLOW LODGE (11) (D) C Barvel 9 11 12 ... A P MicCoy

124-606 REMTSH PIPER (24) (D) N Gassier 11 11 12 .... C Lievesbya

142223 PRUP'S WOODY (18) N Henderson 8 11 9 ... J R Kavanagh

55-0-440 DO BE SREEF (\$2) (C) (D) Mr. J Penran 11 11 3 ... W Menston

5-1-P621 DISTRICTIVE (7) (D) M YMANSON 7 10 9 (6e) ... R Supple

6 3P-1-50 RAMBOW CASTLE (17) J Geford 9 10 8 ... P Hide-

6 declared -BETTING: 7-4 Distinctive, 11-4 Philip's Woody, 5-1 Do Be Brief, 6-1 Ken-tish Piper, 8-1 Detailore Lodge, Raintow Castle

4.10 COMBE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,750 added 2m 5f

- 9 declared -BETTENG: 11-4 Harding, 3-1 Jumay's Cross, 5-1 Mariners Mirror, 6-1 Boyfriend, 15-2 Rocco, 8-1 Sabaki River, 12-1 others

4.40 RAYDON STANDARD OPEN NH FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £1,550 added 2m 110yds

10 SRACEPELD (10) Noel T Chance 6 11 9 R Johnson (3) DAN DE MAN Mass I. Social 5 11 2 MR Richards 30 DENHAM (BILL (83) C Mann 5 11 2 Muredach Relly (7)

HAPPY JACK P Jones 5 11 2 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ D Leatry

O REPERAL HONORS (20) N Lampard 5 11 2 \_\_Gry Levis (3) 

- 14 declares -Nasone, 9-2 Gracefield, 7-1 Twis Saltor, 14-1

3.10 CHARNEY BASSETT NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 2m 1f

2.10: 1 BACKGAMMON (6 Uppon) 5-4 fax: 2. Beaumont 11-2; 3, Sweet Trentino 100-1. 15 ran. 3, 11, (J Okf). Tote: £2.00: £1.30, £2.00, £17.80, DF: £4.20, CSF: £8.31, Tho: £155.10 (part word, pool of £155.19 to Sedigt

£14.31, NR: Rejorius

114.31. NR: KERMIT (D Bodgwater) 8-11 fav: 2. Ask Me Kindty 5-1; 3. Music Therapy 9-1. 7 ran. 8, 1½, 14 J Wison). Total: £1.60: £1.10, £2.30. DF £2.90. CSF: £4.74. 4.15: 1. LE MERLE (A tamach) 100-30; 2. Vaund Drivings 6-1; 2. Yes Berling 14.

WINDSOR

2.20: 1. NORTH BANNSTER U R ke-veragin 6-1: 2. Its Grand 14-1; 3. Il Berm-bino 16-1. 20 ren. 3-1 fev Democada. ¼, 8. (T McGoverni, Tota: £8.20; £1.50, £2.70, £4.80, £4.00, DF: £54.40, CSF: £97.80, Tri

Jackpot: £4,201.90.
Placepot: £93.20. Quadpot: £6.00.
Place 6: £79.56. Place 5: £20.56.

FULL RESULTS SERVICE 0891-168-168 SEDGEFIELD 102 202 302 LEICESTER 103 203 303 LEKCESTER



SEDGEFIELD 2.00 Pier Thirty Nine 4.00 Rustic Air

4.30 Port in A Storm

5.00 Star Performer

3.30 Father O'Brien GOING: Good (Good to Firm in places).

If Lelt-hand, undulating course. Easy fences and long run-in on chase course of 500yds.

If Rececturise is less than a mile south-west of town near junction of A689 and A177.

Bus service from Stockon rativesy station (8 miles away) or Durham rativesy station (12 miles away). ADMISSION: Paddock \$8 (OAPs \$4); Course \$2. CAR PARE: Free.

SIS PACING ■ LEADING TRAINERS WITH BUNNERS: Mrs M Reveley — 72 winners from 241 runners at a ratio of 29.9% giving a venum to 51 stake of +\$22.43; J H Johnson — 23 winner, 163 runners, 14.1%, -\$75.76; G M Moore — 21 winners, 137 runners, 15.3%, 543.85; J Filederald — 17 winners, 19 runners, 27.9%, +\$41.82; ■ LEADING JOCKEYS: P Niven — 64 winners, 190 rides, 33.7%, +\$38.52; M Dwyer — 28 winners, 133 rides, 21.19s, +\$14.00.

UNDERSOR IN THE LAST SEVEN DAVE. Practic Air (A O)) went to be set the first fraction.

LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Diese (3.00) sent 291 miles from P Bowen's Haverfortness stable in Dyfed: Miss Nosey Outs (2.30) sent 252 miles from E Bunke's Ginga stable in Oxon; Pather O'Brien (3.30) sent 250 miles from J Edwards's Sellack stable on the Hereford-

	2.00	JOHN WADE HAULAGE COND. SELLING (CLASS G) £2,500 added 2m 1f 110y Penal	H'CAP HURDL ty Value £1,96
	1 33230-0	CHARLYCIA (45) (D) (Mrs V Chitori) T Cars 8 12 0	D Towler (
l	2 03/02-03	JOHOVE (33) (CD) (Roby Racing) Mrs M Reveley 7 11 10	C NcCormack (
ı	3 - 21 067	BARDAISH (22) (CD) (ven Dale) M Berrackugh 9 11 7	G TOMO
		GLEN MORVERN (17) IG McGumess) W Kemp 10 11 0	
	5 60-000	PER TRUETY NEWE (41) Pleas Enright) J Parkes 10 10 13	R McCastiny (
ı	6 56405-F		
ı			F Log
ı	8 0/25-050	ALICANTE (81) (Alan Winstanley) D McCam 9 10 7	D #bb
ı	9 0-41000	SPE YOU ALWAYS (47) (T A Barnes) M Barnes 6 10 6	E Hestya
ı	10 P-00600	CLOVER GIRL (20) (News M L Brown) B Elison 5 10 4	B Head
	11 690-666	POLLY TWO (23) (A G Forty) Mrs S Austin 6 10 1	B Gradian (
1	12 00 0404	DOLLY PROCES (15) AV J Smith W Smith 11 10 1	
1	13 000	ENVIRONMENTAL LAW (24) (Mrs L E McKeown) W McKeown 5 10	0C CM
		- 13 declared -	
	BETTWG: 11	4 Josseye, 7-2 Pier Thirty Nine, 5-1 Bargaists, 7-1 Glan More	em, 12-1 Dolly Price

14-1 Charlycle, Polly Two, See You Always, 16-1 Mr Optimistic, 20-1 others

When he last ran here, in February 1996, BARQAISH beat 15 others in an almost identical race, but he didn't respoear until about two months ago, finaling tailed off behind easy withner Highbank at Newcastle. Two runs since then the lastest in the mud at Hereford) will have gone a long way to putting Barqaish right and he might be good enough in a weak case. Like Barqaish Josowe has not had much racing recently, if he can improve again after finishing third to Rave De Valse here a month ago, Josowe must be thereabouss, along with Pier Thirty Nine, whose fifth of 17 behind Orchidamm on this course in January was his beat nut since contain from Ireland. This is his first run in brinkers for John Parkes and the headgear wouldn't have to have a dramatic effect for Pier Thirty Nine to make his presence felt. Winner of two sellers in the 1963/94 season, Chartydia was found wanting in better company last season. She's beck at the right level but was talked off last of 18 finshers in the Catterick race won by King Alheistan.

Selection: BARQAISH

1		200	TEAL SOUTH MATERIAL HOURS INCOME.	_ (
1		2.30	E) £3,000 added 3m 3f 110yds Penaity Value	£2,513
i		052,530	ASSESS FRANCE OF ASSET A House of Indicated Johnson 7 11 5	P Challenty
1	٤	21250	CLASSIC CREST (17) (G B. A & G Peacod) G Moore 5 11 5	N Benday
			CRINED ENTRY (45) (Mrs Mary A Meets Mrs M Reveloy 6 11.5	R Hodge
- ₹	32.	UD-UP	CHOURT CALLET (42) (ACC WISA V WOOM WIT IN VENERAL ATT O THE	R Chrom
1	4	90%5	HILLINEW AUCTION (SO) (J.) McInemey T Car 9 11 5	
i	5	000 <del>-</del> €0	KINGS MIRISTRAL (96) (Exars of the late Mr R R Lamb) D Lamb 6 11.5	
•	16	- 005	MACKED BOACH 733 AND Deduct W. Rarket S. 11.5	
	1 7	220.222	BOY ON THE PIRK (45) Files Carl (2:4)   Durin 6 11 5	
	ė	_\NAT	CTENTINE (AT) (Brook Pollum) D McCain 6 11 5	بالكاماتات لاسسس
	ě		TUT BOLD 1000 41 People M Homograf 511 5	L #761
- 1		200	YOUNG ARDROSS (20) (Mrs Spies Blakeley) J Nonco 5 11 5	W Fry
1	10		JUST PHYLLIS (323) (Geoff Pickering) Mrs M Reveiey 6 11 0	P Nhma
ı	11	17.5	KONFALOS DANCER (15) (3 S Brown) Mes Lucinda V Russell 8 11 0	A Thornton
	12	30PLU	ADMANDS DONOR (LD) NO 5 BOM MOS COM I THOUSE O 22 C THE	A Carract (G
	13	0047-54	MISS NOSEY CATS (20) (P.A. Martieus) K Burle 8 11 0.	(1) Herchelle 1
	1	` ഗാ∹ന	OLD BETSY (6) Ales S Smith Mrs S Smith 6 11 0	11) Market 14
ı	15		SHEWING PRICE (Robert Johnson) R Johnson 7 11 0	
	1£	OP.	TESS O'TULLY (21) (R R Bentondge) F Miuragh 8 11 0	WEST 200 LECTION
1	17	23-00	WHITER MORN (104) (Nrs L Marshal) Mrs L Marshall 6 11 D	'WE K AUDOISU (2)
			_ 17 declared _	
- 1	-	THEO A	Dame of The Dame 5.7 Miles Margar Date, 3-1 Abbary Laure, 8-1 Classic	Crest, 10-1 Tee
- 1	BETTING: 9-4 Rom On The Rom, 5-2 Miss Nossy Outs, 3-1 Abbey Lamp, 8-1 Classic Crest, 10-1 The Bold Lord, 12-1 Just Phylis, 14-1 Young Ardross, 20-1 Grand Entry, 25-1 others			
1	50	a Lord, 12	-I Mil talks, 14-1 found various, 10-1 draws could not a man	
			FORM GOIDE	

FORM GUEDE

Few of these look capable of warning on what they have shown so far, two exceptions being ROM ON THE RUN and Abbey Lamps, second and third to Radical Choice over the extended three miles at Castendu I January. The loose ground was reponsible for Abbey Lamp's poor performance on a return trip to Castendu last Tuesday, when he started favourite for a 10-namer nouces foundap, and it might be was to overlook that. Kan Burke's horses are in form ithree winners on the first last week) and Miles Nosey Oats looks a danger. On her first run of the season, in a 16-strong field at Ascot, the mare was fifth to Storm North from 8th out of the season, in a 16-strong field at Ascot, the mare was fifth to Storm North from 8th out of the Radicap and, considering the state of the ground, she did not run baddy but not Superce Rosk at Lingfield last time out.

Selections RON ON THE RUN

	1	3.00	McEVAN'S DURHAM NATIONAL HANDACA CONTROL (CO. 512 000 added 3m 4f Penalty Value £8,091
ı	-		() E12,000 B000 000 11 11 15ml
ı	1		
ı	2	12134	BFTEE (8) (C) (T M Months ) Bourney 9 11 10 G Cahill (5) ALTS ALIER (24) (C) (M's B Kesmey) Mis M Reveloy 9 11 10 G Cahill (5) ALTS ALIER (24) (C) (M's B Kesmey) Mis M Reveloy 9 11 10 G Cahill (5) PBMS GENWER (5) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 11 1 G Cahill (5) PBMS GENWER (5) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 11 1 G Cahill (6) PBMS GENWER (5) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 11 1 G Cahill (6) PBMS GENWER (5) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 11 1 G Cahill (6) PBMS GENWER (5) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 11 1 G Cahill (6) PBMS GENWER (5) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 11 1 G Cahill (6) PBMS GENWER (5) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 11 1 G Cahill (6) PBMS GENWER (5) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 11 1 G Cahill (6) PBMS GENWER (5) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 11 1 G Cahill (6) PBMS GENWER (5) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 11 1 G Cahill (6) PBMS GENWER (5) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 11 1 G Cahill (6) PBMS GENWER (5) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 11 1 G Cahill (6) PBMS GENWER (5) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 11 1 G Cahill (6) PBMS GENWER (5) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 11 1 G Cahill (6) PBMS GENWER (5) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 11 1 G Cahill (6) PBMS GENWER (6) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 11 1 G Cahill (6) PBMS GENWER (6) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 11 1 G Cahill (6) PBMS GENWER (6) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 11 1 G Cahill (6) PBMS GENWER (6) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 11 1 G Cahill (6) PBMS GENWER (6) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 11 G Cahill (6) PBMS GENWER (6) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 1 G Cahill (6) PBMS GENWER (6) (A G Chappel) M Hammond 8 1 G Cahill (6) PBMS GENWER (6) (A G Chappel) M HAMMOND (6) (A G Chappel) M H
ı	3	- 3733	PRICE CONNER (3) (A G Unappea) M Parish to 8 and 10 10 10 12 P Notes
ı	÷	-5.4	URGN V (FR) (ZI) (SF) (LILL SECT (FILL PLANT) 7 10 10
١	5	15-3.E	THINK STATES (BO) (C) (BY) (ABS E DENN) / THINK (O) 10 (O) B Harding (A)
1	Ę	20.2	GO SELLY (20) (C) (FOROGRAD LITTERS) S CENTRAL DE DE CONTROL A TRONTOS
1	7	1505	GO SELLY (20) (C) (Ferrograph Limited) 5 Liberary J Heliens S (10 0
1	δ		SATISTICS FAIL (SZI U PORTE) APPROPRIATION OF THE PROPRIATION OF THE P
ı	-		- 8 declared -

Manager 10st Time handings weight: 60 Say Set Sah, lendre Sat 6b. Andres Gale Sat 6b. Assets 11-4 Time V, 3-1 These, 4-1 Yels States, 9-2 Plans Corner, 8-1 Go Say, 12-1 Jundee,

There's excellent season continued when he bent Andres Prince at Plumpton last week to record his fifth surpless, and he is clearly in good heart as he attempts to make it four our record his fifth surpless, and he is clearly in good heart as he attempts to make it four our record his fifth surpless, and he is clearly in good heart as he given another chance on carrier. States did not not his race that day and can be given another chance on carrier. States deared catanick will fer standard here better that day and dank beyon, who won on twin states used to not not refl (ne beat Jendee here last month) and Mark beyon, who won on twin states used to not not refl (ne beat Jendee here last month) and Mark beyon, who won on twin states are content to some a notice chase here last April, or content, beater a neck. Unon V's jumping is not as then as a content to the unit to the state outling between there weeks only to be not a grack respipeazance after frustring that to Addington Boy in a good race at Concaster on a grack respipeazance after frustring that to Addington Boy in a good race at Concaster on a grack respipeazance after frustring that to Addington Boy in a good race at Concaster on a grack respipeazance after frustring that to Addington Boy in a good race at Concaster on a grack respipeazance after frustring that to Addington Boy in a good race at Concaster of the race comes to soon, but Prins Gunner was 5th out of the frustring of the condition of the once of the food of the once of the handscap crusts be 60 Stay, a farmer point-to-pointer who has taken nicely to this record.

3.30 GUS CARTER HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,750 added 

~ 8 declared -– 8 opcomme – Minimum weight: 10st. True hendrop weights: D'Arbiny Street 9st 12th, Rue Ros 9st 3th. BETIENS: 7-4 Pride Of May, 7-2 Able Player, 4-1 Pather O'Brien, 11-2 The Lueghing Lord, 13-2 Talrangger, 14-1 D'Arbiey Street, 18-1 Prince Yaza, 20-1 Rosa Ros FORM CLUDE

NBLE PLAYER has a bit to prove as far as staying this trip is concerned, but he's alread been surted by the step up to three miles this term. He look more reliable and in better form then most of the others. The Leughing Lord contest into the reckoning as he was only norm from most or the others, has been stell the improving Massier Of The Rock at Mus-seiburgh in January, Just as likely to make his presence tell, however, is Pride Of May. He's run well all season and beat all ber Dominie in a 22-strong line-up at Nothingham last week. Even when he won at Southwell, Fether O'Brien made life difficult for his roler by hanging left, and penings the institute convers will reap, some socialwell, result of chief has not un bady in tougher races at Doncaster and Chepstow, but it's a question of whether he can cope with 12 stone. Tallywagger's close fourth to Village Reindeer at Kelso in No-vember suggests he still has the ability, but he's not been quite the same after going chas-ing last season. D'Arbitley Street went chasing early this term and has yet to necapitude his best hurdles form. Prince Yaza, a two-and-a-half length second to lifeee (getting 5%) over fences here in October, is tracky to ceach right but could probably win this if he were in the night mood. Selection: ABLE PLAYER

  -  -	4.00 ROBIN AND JOHN SIMPSON MEMORIAL H'CAP CHASE (CLASS E) £6,000 added 2m 5f Penalty Value £4,276			
	1	31/21/34	CROSS CAMMON (7) (CD) (J A Hellens) J Hellens 10 11 10T Reed	
	2	1F2-00P	SON OF IRES (17) (CD) (MHG Systems Ltd) Mrs M Reveloy 8 11 10P Mixem	
	3	F13451	JOE WHITE (15) (CD) () Howard Johnson) J Howard Johnson 10 11 5P Carbony	
i	4	5U18-F1	RUSTIC AIR (7) (Mrs 8 V Be) J FisGerald 9 11 0 (7es)	
	5	431122	CHARGENIS GALE (15) (BF) (Mrs. John Errenon) Mrs. S Bradburre 9 10 13 A Watt (7)	
•	6	41524/-3	HEAVENLY CITIZEN (45) U.L. Geotson) J. Gledson 8 10 8	
	7	0-22172	JUNE BOX RELLY (24) (CD) (BP) (Everaldo Pertressino) P Mornesti 8 10 5	
ĺ	8	UFCCUC	DONOVANS REEF (21) Mrs L Marshall Mrs L Marshall 10 10 1	
	9	33800P	BEAZING DAWN (33) (C) U S Hubbuck J Hubbuck 9 10 1B Storey	

BETTHER: 8-4 Rossic Air, 3-1 Jules Bez Billy, 6-1 June Whites, 8-1 Chapming Gale, Son Of Iris, 10-1

FORM GUIDE In four reces over fences, RUSTIC AIR has won twice and failed to complete twice, but his jumping should improve as he's had so title chasing expenence. After almost three years off, Rustic Air ran well until falling two from home in Sprowston Boy's race at Nottingham, but he trotted up at Lecessar last Tuesday and will take all the beating if he can produce a similar performance. Rustic Air son't the only one that has had difficulty putting in a clear round, Julke Box Billy's mistries have cost him at least one win, probably three, this season but he looks the danger judged on his win here in December, when he had too much pace for Joe White. Joe White beat Charmiain Gaile (5th better off) by six lengths over three miles at Musselburgh last time but there might not be so much between the them over this trip. Despite a satisfactory comeback third to Peruvian Gale at Catterick, Heavenly Citizen could find this on the short side. In four races over fences. RUSTIC AIR has won twice and farled to complete twice, but h

		MAD HATTER NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,50 2m 1f Penaity Value £3,186	
1		ST ELMO'S FREE (NZ) (298) (D) (F) S Russell Mass L V Russell 11 11 10	
2		BRIARTS DELIGHT (33) (A Clerk) R Aften 8 11 3	
3	Q/-	COOLRENY (633) (Ass V Thompson) V Thompson 7 11 3	A Janes
4	OH-COOLU	DISTRILLERY HELL (213) (W Tiley) V Thompson 8 11 3	N Bentley
5	33-F022	PORT Et A STORM (7) (John Doyle Construction Limited) M Hernmond 7 1.1	3 B Stoney
6	00-0520	PREMIER FIRST (33) (Premier Trade Frames Ltd) / Hellens 7 11 3	T Reed
7	064053	NEBEL KING (38) (M. Barnes) M. Barnes 6 11 3	P Waggst
g	3403F0	WEAVER GEORGE (45) (Regent Decorators Ltd) / Heliens 6 11 J	
9		WELL BANK (7) (Mrs Dorset M. Sweburn) H Alexander 9 11 3	
10		BALL TENDER (135) (T A Hushes) M. W Easterby 5 10 9	Driscol
_		- 20 declared -	
Æ	784G: 11-	Port in A Storm, 7-2 St Elmo's Fire, 4-1 Srier's Delight, 5-1 Wester Ge	orge, 8-1 Pre
		-1 Distillery Hill, Rebel King, 25-1 others	•
-			
		FORM GUIDE	

FORM GUIDE

Weaver George would be expected to beat the flac of PORT IN A STORM and Brigar's Designt at levels, but he's making his debut over fences and obviously doesn't have their chasing expensions. Runner-up to the revitalised Tresidder here two races ago, Port in A Storm had to settle for second again at Carpanck last week, behind the progressive Newhall Prince. Briar's Delight has also been basten by Tresidder here this year, but more recently he was a close third to His Way in a nowces' handicap (2m 50, There might not be much in tt. First time out last season, St. Elisso's Fire was a good second to useful faxt-ground nouce, Wee River, at Kelso. He had Briar's Delight behind when winning there later on, but Briar's Delight came out better of the two beforehand, when they were second and fount to Mils Mij, also at Kelso in a novices' handicap chase. On that running, St. Elimo's Fire has about six lengths to make up and is 6th worse off.

Selection: PORT IN A STORM

l	E		MARCH HARE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 5f 110yds Penalty Value £2,450
	1	4201	STAR PERFORMER (20) (CD) (P D Savit) Mrs M Revoley 5 11 8
	2		ALL ON (42) (CD) (N Hetherton) J Hatherton 5 11 3
	3	2-06022	BLIVERS DREAM (35) (BP) (C Hai) J Hollers 6 11.2
	4		REPRESENT MAJCK (10) U Howard Johnson; J Howard Johnson 7 11 2
	5	200-015	MIAAD (USA) (49) (Matter O'Topic) J Norton 6 11 2 E Catterfrom (5)
	6	640P43	MESERMENT SOLD (20) (Mrs M E Cures) / Curter 5 11 2D / Kanannegh (5)
	7	0.253	SHULLOW REVER (42) (TH Colors) R Colors 5 11 2
	8	06	VEPRANO (7) (The Vignano Partnership) D Molfatt 5 11 2D J Molfatt
	9	6-403	AURITE ALICE (10) (The East Riding Parmenship) J ForGerald 6 10 11M Daylor
	10	24204	COOL STEEL (20) (HR Head) Ms J Brown 4 10 7
	11		ENCHANTED COTTAGE (6) (David Key Racing) M Harranord 4 10 7
	12	¥.	WHAT'S SECRETO (USA) (US) (I C Athreon & Son Ltd) H Alexander & 10 7 1 Wyer
	_	0/2	OUR RIVERSON (26) (7) beland) No S Austin 4 10 2 B Graftine (7)
	13	D+3	= 13 declared -
			4 Star Performet, 3-1 Stallow River, 13-2 General Much, 8-1 Our Raintow, Rhaad,
	ΒĐ	INC 11-	6 255 LAMBER 3-7 STEAM MAN TO-T SANDE MINEY 9-1 OF LEWISON WOOT

10-1 Auntie Alice, All On, 12-1 Seyers Dream, 25-1 others FORM GUIDE

Although there were 18 runners, STAR PERFORMER ned little to beat on his lest visit, but Although there were 1.8 runners, STAR PERFORMER ned little to beat on his lest visit, but he obtained payer categories the surp up in dictance and he should go well again, despite the pereity. Shallow River, with Richard Durmondy coming in for the note, looks the threft threat efter his third to Anthmetic (Newbury Velmer Sarurday) at Lakesser, a race in which Alt On was tasked off. This ground is faster than any that Shallow River has reced on so far but should suit Alt On, whose course and distance win was in a race restricted to mans and filles. General Muck wouldn't have besten Prosefighter at Messelburgh (2m), but he was in the process of running his best race over jumps so far when fating two out. A bumper winner over two miles three in Ireland, General Muck should be more at home over this distance.

#### LEICESTER

HYPERION 2.20 Pamela's Lad 2.50 Impeccable Timing 3.20 Flame O'Frensi 3.50 Wild Illusion 4.20 Saymore

4.50 Howarysun GOING: Good to Soft (Soft patches in front of the stands).

Right-hand, undulating course. Run-in of 250yds.

Racecourse is two miles south-cast of city off A6. Leticester railway station (London, St Paneras—Sueffield line) over 2 miles away.

ADMISSION: Citab 5 1:2; Tattersalls 28, Silver Ring 54. (Secompanied under-16s free). Free racecards. CAE PARK: Free. Silver Ring Car Park - \$12 admils car and four occupants.

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Wild Illuston (3 50) wor A Lodow lost Trunsday.

LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Star Oata (2.50) sent 235 rdles from N Lampard's Eingsbridge stable in Devor Wayruphili (2.50) sent Newstarsky (2.20). Planne O'Frensi (4.20) & Tangle Baron (4.50) sent 191 miles from K Cumings's South Moutron stable in Devon.

2.20 SQUIRE OSBALDESTON MAIDEN HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £2,500 added 2m 4f 110y 

- 15 declared -BETTING: 3-1A Whady Citizen, 4-1 Candle Glow, 5-1 Great Uncle, 8-1 Brown Baby, 12-1 Eithe Bovernor, Popola's Lad, 14-1 others

2.50 YEDMANRY AMATEURS H'CAP CHASE (CLASS F) £4,200 added 2m 4f 110yds 1 24-3F00 FAIR BROTHER (SE) 6 Bottong 10 12 0 ... Mr A Babling (7)
2 1350-40 WAYRUA (FIQ (17) (SD) / Helens 11 12 0 ... Mr N Wilson (5)
3 21594-6 WAYUHRIAL (7) (D) / J O'Nell 9 11 13 ... Mr L Concorno (7)
4 55-2333 HAWMORIAD (48) C Broad 7 11 12 ... Mr Mr A Wintle (7)
5 3F-UPP STAR DATS (8) N Lemper 10 11 12 ... Mr M Februs (5)
6 PO-00x0 NO WORD (56) R Bastomin 9 11 11 ... Mr J Gallety (5)
6 21155 SARTORESS (7) T Thermon Jones 10 11 11 ... Mr J Gallety (5)
6 21155 VARIMA ALES (20) L Parents 1 11 15 

BETTING: 2-1 Titston, 4-1 Nasone, 9-2 Gr Dentam Hill, Ivory Coaster, 18-1 others

3.20 SLUSH PUPPIE HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £3,000 added 2m 4f 110yds 1211-26 HERMES HARVEST (3) D Williams 8 12 5 ... Wr A Bolding (7) 20/652/- ANTREM COUNTY (865) / Conwall 11 11 10Mr / Contwell (7 1062/6- PERGAL'S DELIGHT(304) C Crashe, 13 11 10 JAr J Printland (7) 243535- KAMBALDA RAMPLER(149)(D) R Costy 12 11 10 Mr R Crosby (7) FPPPOF- LIGHT THE WICK (333) L Saunders 10 11 10 \_Mr M Daily (7) 31F41/- ROCHESTER (1054) A Bowley 10 11 10 .......Mr E James (7) 5FP1/4- PLANE O'FRENSI(365) N Currings 10 11 5. Ms J Carnings (7)
- 8 declared -

BETTING: 6-4 Flame O'Frensi, 9-4 Hennes Harvest, 9-2 Rochester, Kam-

3.50 GARY WILTSHIRE LEICESTERSHIRE HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £5,000 added 3m 1211-25 HERRIES HARVEST(3)(D) D Williams 8 12 1 Mr A Baiding (7) 12112-1 Wild Blusson (5) (D) J Priges: 12 12 1 .....Mr R White (7) 3 32\_PP: PEAJADE (759) (D) J Wormst 12 11 7 ....Miss J Wormst (7) 4 2P:22F6- RYDE AGAIN(355)(CD) C Saunders 13 11 7 Mr B Pollock (S) - 4 declared -

4.20 N&P INCOME REPLACEMENT HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £2,500 added 2m 1f 15/5/UO- RADICAL VIEWS (300) Mrs T Hai 11 12 8....... Mr A HEE (3) 

10 341217 SAUSALITO BOY (1097) R Smap 8 11 10...Mr A Samsome (7) 11 5/20523- SAYMORE (511) P Mons 10 11 10..........Mr C J B Barlow (7) 

BETTRICE great Micherado, 5-1 Saespillo Boy, 11-2 Royal Cleason, 8-1 Saymore, Busmen, 12-1 Trust The Gypsy, Halbum Tarn, 14-1 others

4.50 GARTHORPE MAIDEN HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £2,500 added 3m 004407- BILBO BAGGINS (1050) A Bowley 8 12 5 .... Mr M McGrag (7) 

32: FIRST HARVEST (711) Patrick ( Hanly 9 12 5. Mr P Hanly (7) F HOWARVASUN (22) C Hardings 8 12 5.......Mr D S Johns (7) 10 505PD/P- MICMAHORES RIVER (281) N Starpe 9 12 0 . . . . Mr J Roes (7)

- 10 declared -BETTINK: 5-4 Mowaryasun. 5-1 My Best Man, 6-1 Drument, 7-1 Bilbo Bag-gins, Searcy, 20-1 First Harvact, 14-1 Others

# **Dunwoody** to partner **Alderbrook** Richard Dunwoody yesterday

revealed he will ride the oddson favourite Alderbrook for trainer Kim Bailey in next Tuesday's Champion Hurdle at Cheitenham. Fortune And Fame, Dun-

woody's original mount, is to be

withdrawn by his trainer Dermot Weld. Bimsey is also out of the race, while the participation of Collier Bay is in doubt.

Dunwoody said: "Fortune and Fame did a good piece of work, but Mr Weld was not happy with him. I am very happy

getting the ride on Alderbrook. It is a great opportunity." Reg Akehurst. Birney's trainer, commented: "The horse is 100 per cent sound, but there has been a change of plan. I doubt whether he will run over hurdles again this season."

Jim Old, Collier Bay's trainer, said the horse will not run unless the going - currently "good" at Cheltenham - is soft.

RESULTS

DONCASTER DONCASTER

2.00: 1. PINECONE PETER (M Brennan)
7-1: 2. Urban Dancing 11-8 faz; 3. Blown
A Fase 33-1. 14 ran. 19., 13. (0 Brennan,
Worksop). Tote: £6.50: £2.40, £1.30,
£10.40. Dual Forecast: £5.40. Computer
Straight Forecast: £17.17. Troc: £228.70.
2.30: 1. TiPPING TIM (Mr M Rivrel) 6-1;
2. Space Fair 8-1; 3. Al Hashinal 25-1. 10
ran. 8-13 fay Sheer Jest (fell). 21-a, dist, (N)
Twiston-Dawes, Cheltenhami. Tote: £4.80;
£1.10, £2.00, £4.40. P. £18.80. CSF.
£50.63. Tho: £93.70.
3.05: 1. TARA RAMBLER (P Carbeny) 5-1; 2. Steel Moss 6-1; 3. Goldenswift 4-1.
18 ran. 11-4 fay Caverhouse. 3, 4. (Wiss S
Hall, Middleham). Tote: £6.40: £2.30,
£1.30, £1.50. DF: £0.40, CSF. £6.57. Two

£1.30, £1.60. DF: £10.40, CSF, £36.57, Inc

1.30, 2.1.60 DF: ETO.40, CSF. 236.57. Too. 11.8.70.
3.35: 1. AVRO ANSON (M Dwyer) 1-5 lay, 2. Rushmit 7-1: 3. Tico Gold 14-1. 8 ren. 6, 12. (M Carnacho, Matton). Tote: £1.30: £1.00. £1.40, £1.60. DF: £1.80. CSF. £1.74.
4.05: 1. REAL TONIC (P Carberry) 12-1; 2. Three Wild Days 5-1: 3. Kimberley Boy 3-1 isv. 18 ren. 44, 7. (5 Richards, Greystoke). Tote: £1.4 SC: £2.30, £3.00, £1.20, £2.10. DF: £1.09.70. CSF: £112.87. Ticast: £349.46. Tica: £249.30.
4.40: 1. RNOSSILI BAY (P Niver) 16-1: 2. General Command 4-5 fay; 3. Judicial Field 9-2. 5 ran. sht-hd, 15. (Mrs M Reve-

2. Seneral Command 4-5 fav; 3. Judicial Field 9-2. 5 ran. sht-hd, 15. (Mrs M Reveley, Sathurm. Tote: £18.50; £3.50, £1.20. DF: £6.70. CSF: £28.31. 5.10: 1. WYNYARD LADY (R Hodge) 6-1: 2. Sewitch 5-2; 3. Madam Mock 8-1, 13 ran. 6-4 fav God Smiff (pulled up. 15, 1. Mrs M Reveley, Sathurm. Tote: £9.40; £2.00, £1.70, £3.30. DF: £11.20. CSF: £23.23. Troc. £37.40. NR: Curra Minstrat. Placepot: £51.90. Quadpot: £3.20. Place 6: £48.53. Place 5: £27.80.

£155.10 (part wan, poot of £155.19 in Sadge-field 2.30 today). NR: Woodlands Lad Too. 2.40: 1. LORD OF THE WEST (A Roche) 6-1: 2. Henry Cone 8-11 fav: 3. Dart Sound 6-1: 8 ram. 24;, 5. UJ O'Neili. Tote: £7.80; £170. £1.10. £2.20. DF: £4.40. CSF: £10.59. Treast £25.38. £15: 1. CORRARDER (Mr. J. Smyth-Os-bournel 11-2: 2. Sallor Jim 7-4; 3. Super Tactics 6-5 fav. 5 ram. 24;, 8. U Old). Tote: £7.30; £2.80, £1.30. DF: £5.60. CSF: £14.31. NR: Retonus.

2. Young Dubliner 6-1: 3. Joe Begley 14-1. 8 ran. 9-4 lav Mount Serrath. 20, dist. (A Jarvs). Tote: £4.20; £1.60. £1.80. £2.90.

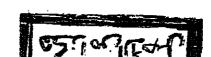
James, Lone: 4,20; 11.50, 11.50, 12.50, 57: 512.30, CSF; 521.30; 4.50; 1. BARTON WARD U Raiton; 10-1; 2. The Brower S-1; 3. Frys No Fool S-1; fav. 10 ran. 4, 8. (S Brookshaw), Tones: 512.10; 53.20, 52.20, 52.10, DF; 516.30, CSF; 580.16. Thu: 55.60, NR; Chief Inspirate

ration.
5-20: 1. WiSE KING (6 Upton) 5-2: 2. Star
Wystery 8-1: 3. Edge-moor Prince 10-1: 10
ran. evens fav Detroit Davy (40n). 24:, 5. (J
0(d). Totas 53.70: £1.30, £5.50, £2.30. OF:
£13.70. CSF: £20.92. Tro: £33.30.
Place 6: £16.60. Quadpot: £9.80.
Place 6: £16.65. Place 5: £11.06.

14.81, 24.00. DF: 254-40. LSF: 151/30. Incast £1.262.10. The £243.30. Non Runner: Strike-A-Pose.
2.50: 1. CHURCHTOWN PORT [I] Alumphy 7-2: 2. Journeys Friend 5-1; 3. Winspir 8-1. 6 ran. 2-1 fav My Waard (4m). 6, 3. (P Busker. Tose: £4.70; £1.40, £2.20. DF: £24.40. CSF: £18.98.
3.25: 1. PRICE'S HILL [I] Murphy 5-2; 2. Keune 4-1: 3. Cetite Town 9-4 fav. 7 ran. 11, 7. (K Basley). Toke: £3.00; £1.50, £2.20. DF: £7.80. CSF: £1.88.
3.55: 1. DEYMIAR (R Durwood) 1-2 fav. 2. Lottery Ticket 3-1; 3. Maryjo 25-1. 10 ran. 11. dst. (D Gandolfo). Toke: £1.60; £1.10. £3.00. NR: Well Arranged.
4.25: 1. WHAT A HAND (Mr 1 Machel) 4-6 tar. 2. Brown Windsor 5-1; 3. No Joker 20-1. 8 ran. 8, 3. (Richard Bather). Toker £5.27 inc £49.60. NR: Drent & What A To Do.

To Do. 5. Sherriffmulk (G Hogan) 5-1; 2. Tukano 100-30; 3. Sik Word 9-1; 10 ran. 5-4 tay Fippahoe (Alth). 19; 4. (Mrs. L Wacham). Tota: £5.10; £1.60; £1.70; £1.10; DF: £9.50; CSF: £21.60. Tho: £20.40. 5.30; 1. NESSUN DORO (Chrs Webol 1): 2. Learnstood Imple 11; 2. 3. Coopt loke. 1: 2. Lawnswood Junior 11-2; 3. Court Joker 3-1 fav. 11, ran. 2%, 4, 45 Meitori. Tothe: Fr. 40; 51.80, 51.90, 51.70. DF: 520.00. CSF: £40.83. Treast: £114.37. Tree £19-50.





# The question is whether Thomas's confidence is better served by pitching him in again against France or by giving him a rest

Scotland which I reluctantly predicted last week, the Five Nations' championship remains the greatest sporting competition in the world.

It would have been pleasantly romantic if Scotland could have won the Triple Crown and the Grand Slam. They would have done too, I think, if Gregor Townsend had sim-ply carried on running - rather as Andy Hancock did for England when they narrowly beat Scotland at Twickenham in 1965.

for support, which enabled Rory Underwood to make the semi-tackle that deprived him of a try. Actually the Hancock comparison is not exact. The England wing was looking the match.

ry) seemed a rather slower pace than Townsend displayed on Saturday.

It would also have helped if Michael Dods had been in better touch with the ball. To which one has to add, in fairness to England, that Paul Grayson would have had to be in worse touch simultaneously, strik-ing the ball as uncertainly as he did against Wales.

If Dods had kicked all six penal-ties instead of three, Scotland would Townsend's mistake was to look have ended up with 18 points enough for a draw. But if Grayson had kicked all his nine attempts rather than six. England would have finished with 27 and so still have won

England ground out the win against Scotland which I reluctantly prestrong water loss to fremand, and for support an tite time. But none as it is, nowever, the final material came. So he simply ploughed on at the greatest interest. England can still win the Triple Crown and the championship. But Scotland and France can each win the championship as well.

If Ireland defeat England and Wales France, Scotland, with six points, become the outright champions. If, however, England, France or both win, the competition (under the admirable new rule introduced in 1993) will be decided on points



Scotland have a points difference could beat Wales by one point. In of only four, England of 12 and those circumstances. England France, owing largely to their win over Ireland, of 33. Accordingly, if England, France or both win, Scotland are out of contention. France by a greater margin than one, Eng-

At the start of the season I noninated France as the best investment (as the bookies like to call it), with Ireland as the most attractive "fun" bet. Well, this second recommendation does not look so clever to- their last seven encounters with day, even though the Irish seem to France in Cardiff, in 1994. In the have put up an old-fashioned spirited performance against Wales. But I must confess to a feeling of self-satisfaction, smugness even, over those correspondents (all of them, as a matter of fact, English) who have written to reprehend me for preferring France to Scotland. As I say, Scotland can still do it if both England and France go down

who surprised everybody, would have won the championship despite their defeat by England; while the two underdogs would have ended their season to tunes of glory. Yet Wales have been successful in only one of 1970s and until 1982, they used to win regularly (with the 1974 match drawn). But that was another time.

I would bring back Mike Rayer at full-back and play Neil Jenkins either at inside-centre or at outsidehalf. Before the Irish match (of which I have seen only television ex-cerpts) I should have retained Thomas. The poor boy should not on Saturday week. I hope they do.
It would provide an impossibly ro-

confidence is better served by pitching him in again against France or by giving him a rest until next season. Wales also need a new loosehead prop instead of Andrew Lewis. who has never appeared comfortable; while Emyt Lewis, alas, is not the force he was.

At the beginning I said that the Five Nations' championship was still the greatest competition in the world. I hope the relatively poor showing of Wales and Ireland this season is not going to lead to more calls for a split table, with Italy and possibly Romania also entering a Second Division. I would much rather have a comprehensive European Championship, even if this meant - as it would - that more

# on Roy for inspiration

Glenn Moore on a difficult Uefa Cup quarter-final first leg for Frank Clark's side

Although the arrest of 21 sup-porters in Munich for alleged fighting and robbery east a shudow on tonight's Uefa Cup quarter-final first-leg tie. Nottingham Forest will approach it more optimistically than was

once envisaged. Bayern Munich may be one of the great European clubs, they may lead the Bundesliga. they may have scored 10 goals in their last two domestic games, and seven - against Benfica - in their last European tie, but they are not happy.

Jürgen Klinsmann, who scored six against Benfica, taking this season's personal European tally to 11 goals, railed last week against his teammates "ego mentality". Lothar Matthaus may have felt his ears burning. Their mutual antipathy has reached the stage where Uli Höness, once a World Cup winner, now the club's manager, has publicly asked for an increase in

team spirit and reduction in ego. Contrast this to a Forest side whose resolute European campaign has vividly illustrated a dressing-room prepared to work for one another. Frank Clark's skilful man-management is best exemplified by Ian Woan. After the quarter-final draw was made he told a Sunday tabloid that For est had no chance. Clark dropped him for that day's match and disciplined him. Woan has since signed a new contract and is playing so well he is being men-

tioned as an England prospect. Such is the lack of ego that Steve Stone, their newest England cap, not only admits to asking Klinsmann for his autograph last season but adds that "he just scribbled something unrecogthe bus without looking at me. to look around him.

I felt like shouting: 'Tve just played against you.

Woan and Stone are struggling to be fit, as is the man who epitomises Forest's spirit, Stuart Pearce. With Colin Cooper suspended for the first leg, the captain's presence is all the more needed.

Pearce has been troubled by a calf injury since January and Clark admitted: "He is less than 50-50, but if it was any other player it would be 90-10 against. If it was anyone else I would not consider playing him. but he is an exception.

"While I have no qualms about their replacements David Phillips and Alf Inge Haland], who both have big-match experience, we would miss the leadership Pearce and Cooper provide. The Italian striker, Andrea

Silenzi, did not go to Germany after a virus he suffered over the weekend flared up. His place in the party was taken by the 20-year-old reserve forward, Steve Guinan. Hope is provided by the return to form of Bryan Roy who, said Clark, "is our match-winner. It is for these sort of matches that we bought him." Roy may face a Bayern defence bereft of Matthaus, who nas a groin injury

Bayern have lost five of their last six meetings with English clubs, even losing at home in the last one, to Norwich City.

They were not the first English club to win in the Olympic Stadium. That honour belongs to Forest, who beat Malmo to win the European Cup in Munich 17 years ago. Clark played that night. If he needs inspiration when preparing his prenisable before he scurried on to match call to arms, he just has

# Forest rely When breaking up is hard to do

Kerry Shacklock talks to **Keith Elliott** about the pain of giving up syr chronised swimming

when she lost the love or nei
They had been together almost
the was just 11. In their
them na-12-year romance, she had been national champion six times, collected two Commonwealth silver medals, won the Europa Cup and finished seventh in the Olympics. It is true that there was a well-publicised affair with Steve Backley for more than a year, but even the hunky javelin thrower couldn't drag her away from her real love.

And so, when she decided to give up synchronised swimming last year, it broke her heart. "I cried for months," she admitted. "There was just a huge gap in my life." Even 12 months on, she still fights back tears as she recalls the days when her only worry was whether her barracuda back pike somersault and combined spin had been executed perfectly.

Shacklock's problem is not unique. Many top swimmers, coached from an age when they are still worrying about their multiplication tables, are like fish on a floor once they hang up their costumes. Suddenly, they are in their twenties with no career, few prospects and little idea of how to earn money. It is a serious problem, and few sports address how to integrate yesterday's heroes into a world where everything doesn't go swimmingly.

Shacklock, 24, is probably luckier than most. She did, after all, stay on at school to take A levels. She is very attractive and has done some modelling (including an appearance in last year's third best-selling calendar, fea-turing sports stars in skimpy outfits).

She is taking a sports therapy diplo-ma, working in a gym as a fitness consultant, doing some massage work, and running aerobic, Callanetics and ciruit classes. She is even undertaking a little synchronised swimming tuition. But she still lives with her parents and is diffident as a 14-year-old on her first date. Life is still a little frightening.

It all started at the local swimming pool. She watched a demonstration of synchronised swimming and got interested. "At the time, it was just something to do." Five years later, she was a member of the British Olympic squad. Other honours followed: fourth in the junior world championships and the European Championships, national champion (a title she was to hold for six years) and two silvers in the Commonwealth Games.

Helped by sponsorship from a shampoo company and a swimming-pool maker, she swam for six hours a day, every day. It paid off with second place in the Europa Cup and seventh in the Olympics, where she had not been expected to make the final. In 1993, she won two bronze medals at the European Championships, and the following year won the Europa Cup, as well as collecting two silver medals in the Commonwealth Games.

But it all went wrong when her spon-



sorship dried up. Shacklock admits that her own shyness probably didn't help the quest for a replacement. A synchronised swimmer, however good, is not as attractive to sponsors as a 100metre butterfly prospect. Shacklock suddenly found that she did not have the money to continue using a private trainer. "My mum is a secretary and

they just didn't have the money to pay for all my needs. I couldn't get a job because I needed so much time for my training. I had no money to do any-thing. Early in 1995, I finally made the decision that I couldn't go on, even though I believe I could have swum in the 2000 Olympics, because I was still

Photograph: Peter Jay

"It was very hard to adjust and there were a lot of tears. I still feel bitter about it, the way it made me feel at the end of the day. Perhaps it was my fault because I took it so seriously, but it just left me out on a limb. It's taken me this long - a whole year - to work my life out. People didn't understand how hard it was." She looks away and blinks a

We are talking in the front room of her parents' neat semi in Yateley, Surrey. There are few clues that they woman who once dominated British synchronised swimming lives here. You feel as if she does not want to be surrounded by reminders of her past life. She still keeps the trophies, the decorative costumes and even the noseclips. But they are put away. It is a life she loved too much to be constantly re-

minded that it is no longer around.
But wait a minute. What's the matter with the woman? We're not talking serious sport: this is synchronised swimming, mermaids splashing round to music in a giant goldfish tank. How can anyone get all emotional about something so frivolous?

Many people who should know better have held the same view. The former International Olympic Committee chairman, Avery Brundage. did his best to get it dropped from the Games altogether, calling it a frivolous water ballet. Even Princess Anne has dismissed it as "synchronised flower arranging".

If you are one of those who thinks

it is about as sporting as worm-charming, you're in for a shock. Synchronised swimming is one of the top three sports in fitness terms, demanding flexibility, strength, grace, cardiovascular fit-ness and agility. You must be able to hold your breath underwater for a couple of minutes, swimming all the time, and those dolphin-like leaps must be accomplished without touching the bottom. It has been described as running a 400m race without drawing breath.

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Mors keep up the

Furthermore, the sport has an avid following, with several thousand enthusiasts in this country alone. Last year's world junior championships attracted entries from 34 countries. Ever since it joined the Olympics in 1984 (before 1890, it was known as scientific and ornamental swimming, and only performed by men), it has always been one of the first sports to sell out.

The problem comes because of our belief that sports stars should look as if they are suffering, and those happy grins give totally the wrong impression Anne Clark, chairwoman of the English Synchronised Swimming Committee, says: "When you have been underwater for a minute, you are gasping for breath but you can't let the judges know you are showing stress." Hence the smile, which is actually a clever way of gulping in air.
But the critics have won a small vic-

tory. Clark feels that the best way to counter negative publicity is to emphasise the fitness aspect and play down the glitz. So her committee has banned sequins on costumes, although internationally they are still allowed.
"I think this is a shame." Shacklock says. "In competitions, all the other girls have these amazing costumes and we have dowdy ones. I think people like the glamour of it.

But that's all behind her now. Shacklock now believes she can watch a competition without feeling the pain of not being there. "It will be weird, watching the Olympics, and sad be." cause I would really love to be there. But I'm out of it now, and I won't ever try to go back."

#### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

As the champion of women's cncket, Rachel Heyhoe-Flint acquired one distinction Michael Atherton seems unlikely to share: she captained a World Cupwinning England team, Indeed, she was unbeaten as skipper from 1966-77. in addition to sconing almost 1,600 "Test" runs. The name became synonymous

with her sport, although not everyone these days makes the connection. "On one occasion. someone i met on a train spent an hour and half discussing show 1970s, writing for the Daily Telejumping." she said. "Another graph and cricket magazines as seemed to think I had sailed the world single-handed." Nowadays, she is public relations executive of Wolverhampton Wan-

derers, a role that stemmed from golf clubs, but football is her first a friendship formed 26 years ago love. "Apart from getting to see with the club's wealthy patron, Sir the games, I do a lot of com-Jack Hayward, who sponsored an munity work, which I really en-England women's cricker tour to the joy," she said. Now 56, she is West Indies in 1970.

tenpin bowling coach, she once Ben, is at Durham University. coached the US women's hockey team and also kept goal for England.



She took up journalism in the

well as becoming sports editor of the Wolverhampton Chronicle.

She represents a number of married to former Warwickshire A former PE teacher and, bnefly, cricketer Dernck Flint. Her son,

# Ball in LTA's court as Lloyd shows interest in the leading role

JOHN ROBERTS

David Lloyd, the scourge of the Lawn Tennis Association before being made Davis Cup captain, indicated yesterday that he would be interested in succeeding Ian Peacock as chief executive - given a free hand. "I don't think I could take the job in the capacity Ian Peacock of attitude towards its most

had it where he really has been tied by committees; I couldn't work like that," Lloyd said. "It would have to be a completely different ball game, where you'd call the tune without worrying what people say all the time. Such a statement would have eliminated Lloyd from consideration had the post been open

a couple of years ago, but last

year the LTA showed a change

vociferous critic by giving him ing standards. There is no urthe Davis Cup job. Guiding a team from the brink of fourth-rate status in the world is one thing, loosening the grip of amateur British administrators could prove a far

greater challenge.
It may be decided that Lloyd is of more value motivating the players, although he could argue that, given a wider brief, he could devote his energy to raisgency for an appointment to be made, Peacock having announced that he will remain in the job until his contract expires at the end of September.

"David Lloyd obviously is a potential candidate," Peacock said, "but we've got a little bit of time to go through the process and see who's around. and for the board to clarify in their own mind what sort of person they want sitting in this chair: whether they want a David Lloyd high-profile person, or whether they want someone who's going to run a £45m business.

If the way Lloyd has managed his own affairs is a guide, the LTA's millions from the Wimbledon Championships would be well invested. Commercially, he is the most successful indi-

and leisure centres, which he sold to Whitbread for £20m last

He retained an executive role in the company, but this would not necessarily prevent him from taking the LTA job. "One would have to do a lot of clearing round, but I wouldn't throw it out at this moment in time," he said. "I think I could vidual in the British game, hav- do a pretty good job."



#### AMERICAN FOOTBALL. ENGLISH TURF. CALL 0500 35 35 35 FOR TICKETS.

In this sport, it's the humans who are treated with cruelty. Venue: White Hart Lane, Tottenham . Home games: April 14, May 6, May 19, May 27, June 16 • Courtesy shuttle bus with return service from Seven Sisters tube. Pre-game Power Party at 12:00pm • Kick-off at 3:00pm • Half-price admission for children 12 and under • Season tickets: 5 for the price of 4. --



MONARCHS CONTRACTOR





Rugby Union STEVE BALE

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fatery negligible.

Jason Leonard will make a personal appearance at a hearing in London today that will decide whether he is free to play in Fingand a Triple Crown game against Ireland on Saturday week or,

more likely, be suspended. The 27-year-old prop was cited on Sunday by the Scottish Rugby Union for the first-half punch into the face of Rob Wainwright that left the Scotland captain groggy for the rest

of last Saturday's Calcutta Cup match. The incident was not observed by the match officials. Jacky Laurans, the French

federation committee member who was the Five Nations' commissioner at Murrayfield, has been summoned to deal with Leonard, who will probably be accompanied by Jack Rowell. the England manager.

Yesterday, Leonard, still in Edinburgh, emerged to make his first and only comment: "It was an unlucky incident." Although it is vastly less serious than the head-stamping which earned another prop, Peter Clohessy of Ireland, a 26-week suspension after being cited, Leonard is still

liable to a ban of 30 days. On the other hand, had the referee, Derek Bevan, seen the punch it is most unlikely he would have done more than show Leonard a yellow card. When he saw Scott Hastings punch Martin Johnson in the second half, he simply awarded a penalty against Scotland. So if Leonard can persuade Laurans that Bevan would have limited his punishment, he may even escape without being banned.

Moreover, even though Hastings was dealt with by the referee and is therefore not liable to citing, mischievous spirits at Twickenham could be imagined asking their Scottish counterparts whether they will adopt the same justice for their man

as Laurans does with Leonard. Yesterday, however, Tony Hallett, the Rugby Football Union secretary, ruled out any tit-for-tat – while acknowledging that a citing system was in effect an invitation to rival unions to pore over match videos in the hope of finding culprits.

The lingering puzzle is that an incident that was initially played down by Wainwright should have ended up as a cause célébre. While the Scotland captain was calling it "a wee 'stramash'", the Scottish management were already preparing their accusation. (Chambers's Scots Dictionary describes a stramash as "an

uproar or tumult"). Rowell may well have to do without Leonard, but Dean Richards he cannot - and the great man's gargantuan performance against the Scots

manager's anxiety about where he is to find a successor. At Twickenham yesterday, he pub-

licly plumped for Tim Rodber. Rowell expressed a second anxiety about the number of non-English players coming into the newly professional English game and the consequent reduction in the pool of players at England's disposal, suggesting an upper limit of three per club if this were consistent with European Union law.

Hallett revealed that Michael Lynagh, Saracens' Australian ac-

quisition, was being treated as an Italian, having played in Treviso for many years. With the approval of both the Italian and Australian unions, the former Wallaby captain will thus be eligible to play for his new club from the start of next season.

Hallett also announced that the Bath v Wigan rugby union match on 25 May would be played at Twickenham. As well as pre-Christmas home Tests against Italy and Argentina, the RFU hopes that England will play New Zealand in November to mark its 125th anniversary.

## **Solheim** prospect excites Walker

TIM GLOVER

The Solheim Cup could be nestling in Europe come September if the optimism of the captain, Mickey Walker, is to be believed. "We have the most exciting women golfers in the world without any doubt," she said yesterday.

Walker, by popular demand, has been the non-playing captain of Europe since the match against the United States began n Lake Nona, Florida, in 1990. The vastly experienced Americans won the first encounter. Europe took the second in Dalmahoy, Edinburgh, in 1992 and the United States won the third at The Greenbrier, West

Virginia, two years ago.

This year, the match will be held at the Marriott St Pierre Hotel in Chepstow from 20-22 Professional Golfers' European tour is expecting a daily attendance of around 15,000, which would exceed any audience for a women's event in Europe.

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In Laura Davies, Annika Sorenstam and Liselotte Neumann. Europe currently has the top three players in the world. Walker was too diplomatic to say so, but she hinted that the best of the Americans are getting a little long in the tooth.

When we won at Dalmahoy it had a huge effect," Walker said. "Our tour is improving so quickly and most of our players are not even close to achieving their potential. In contrast, America's top players have reached their potential and their team will be changing with the introduction of more rookies. We are going to be the team with the most experience in terms of Solheim Cup competition. The nucleus of our side will be the same and we are getting better all the time.

Traditionally, the Americans have always had the edge in that they have had far greater strength in depth, but that is changing. When we played the first match in Florida we didn't really believe in our hearts that we could win." Europe will have seven automatic qualifiers from a points system over the course of the 1995 and 1996 season and Walker has the luxury

The course at St Pierre.

# Richardson stops West Indies' rot

Cricket

Australia 229-6 West Indies 232-6 (West Indies win by 4 wickets)

Richie Richardson delivered the perfect answer to his critics yesterday but is still prepared to step aside as the West Indies

captain if his players wish. Richardson's unbeaten 93 inspired the West Indies to a four-wicket win over the World Cup favourites, Australia, in Jaipur - four days after the surprise defeat by Kenya in Poona which provoked outrage among their supporters back home.

"It was embarrassing in the Caribbean when we lost to Kenya, so I'm very happy for them back home," Richardson

The West Indian revival owed the Richardson's return to n with the bat after Brian ara had gone for a breezy 60.

against Shane Warne, who conceded only 30 runs but failed to take a wicket. They also fielded tightly and profited from some fine early bowling from Courtney Walsh and Curtly Ambrose, who conceded just one run in his first five overs.

Richardson should now lead his side in a quarter-final against



as well as a cautious game-plan South Africa in Karachi, barring a win for Kenya over Sri Lanka in Kandy tomorrow

Australia's total of 229 for 6 was led by Ricky Ponting, who made a superb 102, but Richardson swung the issue in style.

McGarth.

Rowling Ambrose 10.4-25-0: Weish 9-2-35-2: Serbop 9-0-52-0: Harmer 10-0-46-1: Athurton 9-0-53-0; Aramer 3-0-15-0.

WEST INDIES

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K J Adruston Date to the E Waugh 20
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Total (for 6, 48.5 overs) 232
Felth 1:1, 2-26, 3-113, 4-146, 5-194, 6-196. Did not bet (A Berop, C F L Ambrese, C A Water, Bowling Reiflet 10.3-45-1: Fleming 7.5-1-44-1; McGreth 9-0-46-0; Warrie 10-1-30-0; M E Waugh 10-1-38-3; Bevan 2-0-1,7-0.



Striking it rich: Richie Richardson hits out during his match-winning innings against Australia

# CS gas player will deny any charges

ugby League VE HADFIELD

rie McDermott, the Leeds d former Great Britain prop. Ill deny any charges that arise om his becoming the first erson in the country to be subed using a CS gas spray. McDermott, aged 23, was arsted after an incident outside night-club in Oldham early on

anday morning and released on plice bail until Thursday. Greater Manchester Police id that he became "extremely olent and aggressive", forcing em to use the newly introduced prav. But McDermott's solicix, John Fitzpatrick, said: "If e is charged with anything, the

targes will be denied." The 17st player, who has a ass eye as a result of a childood airgun accident, was bad-

ly affected by the spray, Fitz-patrick said. "He tells me that he was up all night vomiting and that his face still feels burnt." Mc-Dermott started his career with Oldham, and spent a year with Wigan before signing for Leeds

in a £100,000 deal last summer. \ Hull have transfer-listed their Great Britain forward. Steve McNamara, for a massive £350,000 after his third request for a move. The 24-year-old Mc-Namara has appeared as a sub-stitute forward in Test matches. An announcement is ex-

pected later this week about radical changes aimed at keeping Super League afloat worldwide. A meeting of Britain's 32 professional clubs has voted unanimously to give the game's board of directors cane blanche to do whatever they see as necessary "to protect and pro-mote" World Super League.

# Carver a non-starter

from nine different sources. The

Rowing HUGH MATHESON

John Carver, the Cambridge Boat Club president, accepted the challenge from last year's losers, Oxford, to race for the Beefeater Trophy on 1 April, albe able to compete himself. He raced for Goldie, the Cambridge reserves, in 1994, but two operations on a damaged wrist have failed to heal, complicated, he suggests, by his being a diabet-ic, and he has ruled himself out.

Oxford announced a crew which is as near certain in names, if not order, as it can be with four and a half weeks to go. Carver put names to a crew, but was anxious to say that at least two named for Goldie are serious challengers. The contrast between the

squads is clear. Oxford has an up to the race." older, stronger group drawn

Light Blue squad, although less experienced and younger, has the advantage of six men who have come up through Goldie and the distinctive Cambridge coaching system over a number of years. The continuity of training is

a vital factor for Robin Williams, though he knows he will never the Light Blue chief coach. "I am last year as well as two Blues, but going to select a blend from the only one, the president, Robert rhythm which we had in the 1995 Goldie crew, which scored a massive victory over Isis [the Oxford reserves], and the sheer strength which you normally associate with the Blue Boat."

Daniel Topolski, who leads the coaching at Oxford as he has done for all but seven years since 1973, has to find or create the cohesion in the next four weeks. "It's a race against time. We have had a breakthrough in the last few days, but cohesion will remain the challenge right Next week, he will take the Ox-

ford crews to train for 10 days on the Olympic course at Bañolas in Spain, and as the ferocity of winter training tapers off, he will hope to spend more time drilling the crew to respond as one.

He has the strength on tap to win, provided it can be harnessed. Five came back from Isis Clegg, was in the line-up yes-terday. The remainder, including the Blue Garth Roseneren were squeezed out by newcomers to the Dark Blue standard. Williams has held the crew or-

der for five days and will go on testing, looking for impro-vement. "I will be devastated if we don't win. But it's different Last year I was in no doubt. This time I know we can win.
"We have a brand new crew

which is neither favourite nor underdog. In '95 we won at 95 per cent of our best. This time it will take 100 per cent."

Southamaton, 3 Agrific Leach; v Tortenham (provisonal), 37 Aprilic Manchester Utd v Leach; Nevcastie v Southampton.
FA MARRO TROPHY Fourth-round draw: Hidelifd v Staverrage Borough; Gresley Roues; v Macclessfeld; Sast City or Bronspone v Metther Tydti or Northwich Visiona; Boroleam Wood or Crorley v
Grescheed; (Res to be played Saturday, 23 Marchi, 
SCOTLAND UNDER-21, SQUAD) (European Under-21, Chastropionablia passers-vinali finst, leg v Hossigns), Bostopeut, 12 Marchi; Boston Plangess, 
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Plearis, Scott (St Johnstone), Stiller (Rangest), 
SURMAY'S LATE RESULTIE: Spanish Langue; 
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Brazil and Argentina Qualify for Oymples 
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SPORTING DIGEST

# **High winds catch** out Hobie Cats

STUART ALEXANDER reports from Dubai

Ambulances carried five injured yachtsmen from the beach as the Hobie Cat 16 World Championships semi-finals began in high winds here yesterday. There were no injuries among the three British boats, but a United Arab Emirates crewman broke his wrist and a New Zealander suffered a suspected broken leg.

Best British result of the day was by Matthew Eeles, scoring a third place with crew Philip Hildyard. Mark and Victoria Farrow managed a 10th, but Stephen Park and Ruth Verrier-Jones, who came second in the qualifiers, slumped to 41st.

Blustery conditions prevented racing in Miami yesterday, allowing repair work among the Star class competing in the Bacardi Cup, which doubles as the second series of trials for the British Olympic team place.

On Sunday, the scrutineer there, Bryn Vaile, decided that the first race could go ahead as | of five wild cards. The US, by there was no more than the maximum 16 knots blowing at the start. Any more and it would not have counted. That soon piped up to 20 in a race won by Paul Cayard and in which Glyn Charles was for a long time third.

He and George Skoudos finished sixth, but Lawrie Smith and Chris Mason, who was leading after the first trial in Miami at the end of January, was 18th and those 12 extra points were enough to put Charles within four points. When each discarded his worst result. Charles went into the lead by two points.

Rowing

comparison, have one wild card.

which in the past has been the venue for professional events on the men's tour, is being refurbished to the tune of £750,000. Seve Ballesteros and Jose Maria Olazabal suffered a not unexpected defeat when they made their comebacks in Gran Canaria yesterday. The Spaniards, both of whom have not played since last September. lost by two holes to Colin Montgomerie - also playing for the first time this season - and Sam Torrance in an 18-hole, four-ball

175: 3 N. Srunstatti (Lepen) 165. Women: 1,800hr; 1= Sin,sernos: (Lopen) 10 kozak (Lepen) 119 60: 3 Sivote (Internetration): 119 56: 15-ind World Cup standings: 1 C Widty (US) 20-jos; 2 E 7 Nosem April 225; 3 Nusurose 200; 5,500hr; 1 M. Uebera (Lepen) 7:18,63, 2 C Dijstra (Nem) 7:19,05: 3 E Beta (Iray) 7:21,61. World Cup final standings (3,000/S)00th; 1 G Nomarin Gen 195, 2 C Pechsten (Gen 160; 3 Behara 170)

Penny Heyns, of South Africa, broke the 100 metres breaststroke record yesterday at the national championships in Durban, clocking 1:07-46, which shaved 0.23sec off the previous mark.

COMCAST US INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS (Philadelphia) Final, J County ILS) of C Woodruff (ILS) 6-4 6-3.

#### Collins makes Benn an offer

Nigel Benn, who lost his World Boxing Council title to "Sugar Boy" Malinga in Newcastle on Saturday and announced his retirement from the ring, has been invited to fight for the \*World Boxing Organisation super-middleweight title by the holder, Steve Collins.

Collins, who defends his title against Neville Brown in Millstreet on Saturday, knows that a fight against Benn would be far more financially worthwhile

meet Nigel in the ring and I think as a challenger we would see the old Nigel, but he's not taking my title.

both weekend visitors. Durham

Wasps scraped home 4-3, while

Nottingham Panthers won 5-4.

The two are drawn together in

Group A of the play-offs.

# Warriors keep up the fight

Football

After a season propping up the Premier Division, Newcastle Warriors have made it to the championship play-offs at the expense of Milton Keynes Kings, writes Steve Pinder.

Slough Jets 7-3. That sees Kings and Jets continue their season in the play-offs against the top six of the First Division, with the two group winners achieving or maintaining Premier status. Basingstoke Bison frightened

The two sides met midweek with Warriors winning 13-4, but over the weekend Kings lost twice while Warriors beat than a meeting with Malinga. Collins said: "I still want to

The New York Giants are to match the six-year, \$16.45m (£10.8m) offer ten-

Rackethall

Olympic Games in Atlanta. Steve Paci, Worthing Bears' American forward, looks set to miss the rest of the season after breaking his ankle in

dered to the running back Rodney Hampton by the San Francisco 49ers, Bob Tisch, the team president, said in a television interview on Sunday.

Magic Johnson, of Los Angeles Lakers, has decided against seeking a place in the "Dream Team III" squad which will represent the United States at the

THE SESSION LABOR THE MATTER THE TRANSPORT OF THE TRANSPO

STEACHAN BRITISM OPEN (Wagen) Flank: R Chapman (Eng) to M Russel (Eng) 1,616-772. STRACHAN UK CHAMPIONSHIP (Wagen) First round: G Soth droft to D Marksat from 1204-213. A Strandbye (End) to D Barron (Eng) 773-524; b Sneddon (Sou) for C Bestern (May 506-534; M Ferriess (Ind) by B Dr. (Eng) 763-244; M Kottner first to I Williamman (Eng) 455-535; M Rehem (Ind) by N Dagley (Eng) 618-655; S Agencel (Ind) to I N Pale (Eng) 628-625; S Agencel (Ind) to I N Pale (Eng) 628-625; S Agencel (Ind) to I N Pale (Eng) 628-637; C Septil (Eng) by I A Sharrondy (Ind) 510-512; R Williams (Eng) to A Sharrondy (Ind) 511-514; Second votante: S Agencel (Ind) to A Sharrondy (Ind) 511-514; Second votante: S Agencel (Ind) to A Sharrondy (Ind) 512-512; R Williams (Eng) to S Amentath (Ind) 528-514; M Kothan (Ind) to M Ferreira (Ind) 756-490.

# American football

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Varnwacopoulos, Wey Vasley) bt Scotland (J.
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15-14. Flores semi-fizaits: tream (R. Corry, A. McMatter, R. Battersty), D. Covidi, Belfrast, it England
(J. Smith, R. Newmen, N. Neuman, G. Stacey,
Whatelengiers, Reading) 19-11; Scotland (I. Bourley,
S. Red., E. Vorsteman, R. McCusloch, Prestwick) bt
Wales (E. Beller, M. Schwy, R. Wasson, P. Rowferds,
Cartiffi 16-15.

WOMEN'S ALL ENGLARD INDOOR CHAMPION-SHE'S (Southampton): Two wood triples semi-finaise Picketts Lock (5 White) bt Prince Arthur (P Carl 15-13: Yofe (P Nopo) of Bassettine (E Lessiey) 17-7. Finait Picketts Lock it York 19-12. Chem-ples of Champions filter round: 8 Ade (Pentis-well at E Keens (Gallow) 23-19; N State (Tazmab) bt J Hodoco (Cammoglas) 21-9; P Porud follib ht D Kernelly (York) 23-34; S McChristok (Royal Tur-bridge Profit D L. 34; S McChristok (Royal Tur-Laws, Enfet (J nr. 4); Cachester ib C Dervison (Laws, Enfet (J nr. 4); Questian-Timals; Shaw of Ade 21: 10; Proud to McChristok 21-12; West It Boswell 21-13; Passes and Hansler Person (Brest) 23-21; (Diet eage and); Research (Vorcs, L Thomas) or Colchester (E Turn, B Brown) 23-17.

Cricket

Stuart Law, the Australian all-rounder, will be Essex's overseas player, replacing Mark Waugh, next season, providing he is not chosen for the tour to Sri Lanka in early August.

Footbail

PA CARLING PREMISHS PR-arranged fictures: 12 March: Chelses v Menchester Cay. 13 March: Blackburn Rovers v Leeks Und; Liverpool v Win-bledon. 19 March: Alsenal v Liverpool; Asian

Ganton in Yorkshire, scene of the 1949 Ryder Cup, is to host the 2004 Curtis Cup match.

Curtis Cup mattch.

DORAL-RYDER OFEN Militaris Leading final-round scores (ISI surless statistic 289 6 Norman (Just) 57 69 67 68. 27.1 v Snrgi (Fig) 70 66 67 68; M Bradley 64 71 70 68, 474 F Allem (SAI 67 7.1 70 68.1 Network 71 67 67 67 7.1 67 68 67. 275 N Ozaku Uspani 386 71 70; Hasa 72 88 68 67 277 L Cemera 71 67; R Flore 67 73 68 68; L Netson 66 73 71 67; R Flore 68 70 67 69 70; J Morse 67 73 68 70; M Bradley 66 73 67 69 70; J Morse 67 73 68 77 72. 279 3 Cherahaw 68 71 68 72. Selected: 282 N Falox GB9 72 68 77 72.

ENCLAND AMATEUR SQUAD (for training Valderman, 13-20 March: In Black Loy (Psyling), S Boardman (Cacto Hould, J Crampton (Saiding), S Davis (Medical), D Lucias (Morse), P Streeter Steutord, P Spany, D Lucias (Morse), P Streeter (Seutord, P Spany), M Raymand (Moseley), P Streeter (Seutord, P Spany)

TODAY'S NUMBER period of a 4-3 win against his first NHL team, the Edmonton Office

team, the comonton overs.

NRL: Winnipeg 7 New York Islanders 5; Washington 3 Philadelpha 0; Vancouver 3 Buffalo 0; St Louis 4 Edmonton 3: Caligory 5 San Jose 1; Tamps Bay 2 Anahem 2 (oil; Detroit 6 Chicago 2; Colorado 4 Toronto 0. temps and yearnest of the Verball of Children (20 Children) and the Verb

Motor racing Giancarlo Fisichella, of Italy, will replace Tald Inque, of Japan, in the Minard Ford team in Sunday's Australian Grand Prix

at Meldourrie.

INDYCAR GRAND PRIX OF MIAMI (Homesteed, Florida): 1 I Vasser (US) Reynard Honda 133 leps (evertige speed 109, 390 moh): 2 Ge Ferrar (Bra) Reynard Honda 133; 3 R Gordon (US) Reynard Ford Cosworth 133; 4 S Pueti (US) Lola Ford Cosworth 133; 6 B Rahal (US) Reynard Mercedea Benz Ilmor 133; 17 M Rundell (Eng) Reynard Ford Cosworth 129.

Rallying

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Snow reports

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FRANCE

La Plagne

ITALY

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BULGARIA

MAGE

SWITZERLAND

NORTH AMERICA

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Speed skating WORLD CLIP (Deligary, Cardy Ment: 1,000m: 1 M Horn (Japan) Jurn 12.10ec; 2 Surg-tyel Jap-gi (S Kor) 121.2 55; 36 Vornekte (Neth) 1:12 56. Final World Cup standings: 1 A Sondar (Not 100per; 2 ) House (Japan) 213; 36 Vornetic (Neth) 202, 10,000m: 1 R Risara (Neth) 13:51.4; 2 6 Romme (Neth) 13:56.75; 3 F Drinch (Jen) 13:57.48. Final World Cup standings (5,000/10,000en): 1 Risans 19:5ps; 2 Romme

3.3

21.2

100% 90%

100%

100% 96%

excellent 100% 24.2

polici pwdr 100% 27.2

100% 100%

DCMD DWDT

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# 8-4 6-3. MEN'S BEDDOR TOURNAMENT (Rocturdam) Pinst round: Q Rucus (Fr) bt S Cosedel (C. Res) 8-3 6-3; C Moya (Sp) ts M Sumes (Gen 6-3 7-5; U-Steel (Res, to P Bour (Gen 7-6-7-6) Principal (Gen) 51 H Jan Davids (Nept: 6-7-6-3-6-3) **₩INDEPENDENT** Be the first in the know to find the best snow! <sup>™</sup>0891 333 110

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THE THREE !

UEFA CLP QUARTER-POIALS FIRST-LEG iyam Munich v Hostra Purest (7.15) arcelora v PSV Backovan (8.0) avia Pregne v Rossa Bati v Bordener (7.46) FA CARLING PRESERVER City (7.48) Patace v Grimaby d v Derby (7.45) oa (7.45) .... TERO DIVISION

ANGLO-MALIAN CUP ENGLISH FINAL SECOND-LEG Port Valo (I) t West Stouwich (C; (7.45)

SOUTHERN PARAL PREST LES Strongbury - Bristol Rovers

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE

FA UMBRO TROPHY THIRD-ROUND REPLAYS Northwich v Merthyr Tydfii ..... Charley v Boreham Wood ...... Broangrove v Bath City (7.45) SPALDING CLIP QUARTER-FINALS

Morecambe v Maccischen (1745)
Scothport v Gatesheed (745)
KLS LEAGUE Premier Divisions Bromley v Station Util Heyes v Belton's Stortford (745); Histon in Hendon; Working v Walton & Herstein (7.45); Histon v Hendon; Working v Walton & Herstein (7.45); Marchan v Divisions Barton v Belton's Sants (7.45); Marchan v Ballenchy; Mityrisette v Johndon (7.45); Marchan Barton, Waltstein (7.45); Marchan Barton, Waltstein (7.45); Marchan Herrustond v Viteriam (7.45); Horstein Herrustond v Collect Rom (7.45); Horstein v Freglachy (7.45); Marchan V Breiton (7.45); Marchan Herrustond v Plackonel Heath (7.45); Wingste & Freglach Viteriam (7.45); Wingste & Freglach (7.45); Wingste & Fregla PRESENCE A CARREY INTERES.

DIVISIONED LENGTIE Premise Divisione Protect V
Betrop Auctions. Challenge Cup fourth rounds
Genschorugh Timby V Witton Albon. President's Cup second round: Marine v Hyde.

TODAY'S FIXTURES BEAZER HOBES LEAGUE Promier Districts Buldock v Wincester, Cambridge Cay v Hassings; Chetenham v Surford; Gravesand v Saiebury (7, 45);
Rustidna A Deamonts v Sudhay Town (7, 30). Mitland Division: Himidday Town v Recing Cub Werverck; Lexesser Univ v Stouthartiger, Grading Note
Ning's Lynn; Rodwell v Earnerin, Southern Divisions Heav Brainines (7, 45); Front Genom Roses,
V Newport, IoW (7, 45); Trontridge v Tombridge
(7, 45); Waterstonde v Fisher, 15%; Winey v Creddon, Dr Martens Cap Strift (7, 45); Waterstonde
Onto Townson Strift (7, 45); Waterstonde
Fine Strift (7, 45); Waterstonde
Fine Strift (7, 45); Waterstonde
Low V Chellenger V Northern LEAGUE
First Divisions RTM Reviceste v West Auckland;
Tow Low v Condets, Crawes Cup second format
Annack v Billingson Town; Easington Colley v Stocton Commence; Hotiger v Hothum; South Shields
v Weinington, Outmittes Bast LEAGUE Premier
Divisions Coster Town v Pickering, Longue Grap
South round Balgor v Brigs Stockshodge v Arreid,
Presidentin Cup Foorth normat Marky v Deraby,
WINNSTONLEAD RENT LEAGUE First Divisions

WINSTONIEAD KENT LEAGUE FIRST DI Camerbury v Furnéss, Sheppey v Ransgare, State Greet v Cherham; Thomesmead v Whistable, Manaral Materian NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE First Divisions Burscough v Children; Bootle v Parman; Darwer v Nambelon (8.0); Enstwood Hardey v Manadey, Traf-Viennest (A.) Pageston is say viented.
JEWSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Divisione
Dea vivicum: Green Vermouth v Feberham; Helcased v Feberham; (B.D.); March v Wasbech,
Hoverhall v Wirochem (B.D.); March v Wasbech.

Havefull & Windowski (B.C.); Mercu V Wassect.

MITTELLINK (BOPPESS MEDI AND ALLIANCE: Barelin Supported (7.45); Boletoil V Shifnel (7.45);
Chasetown V Oldbury (7.45); Kynpersies Victoria

Handder Adhiesic (7.45); Pershner Sto

Michael's; Roceszer v Blakenell (7.45); West Michael's; Police v Sheoshed Dynamo; Willenhall v Hale-sowen Hamitra (7.45). HEREWARD UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE Pres
Division: Exnesh and Yearn OREAT MILLS LEAGUE Premier Divisions Bro-tol Manor Farm v Paulton Rovers; Bactonell v Twe-ton; Etmora v Torington. to Marky Farm ton; Eimor v Torington. LEACUE OF WALES: Ebbw Yale v Lianelli; Leacue of Wales: Ebbw Yale v Lianelli; Newtown v Con-Librasoropau (7.45).
REISH COCA-COLA FLOODLIT CLIP Semi-final
Artis v Cirtarusie (7.30) (at the Deat Bellos). Artis v Cithorusie (7:30) (at The Oval. Beltast).
Bolto GASS LEAGUE OF BRELAND Premier Disiglace Dregheda v Cork Chy (7:45).
PONTRES LEAGUE Firet Divisione Berton v Oldnam (7:0): Teammen v Spice (7:0). Second Division: Blackpool v Aston Vite (7:0): Coventry v 
Preston (7:0): Sundertand v Mensfeld (7:0).
ANON RESERVACE CORREPANTION First Division: 
Sington v Southempton (2:0): Portsmouth v Tortentum (7:0); Queen's Park Ranger v Saviton (7:0) at Harrow Borough); West Ham v Bristol 
Rosen (7:0).
Revent (2:0): Pitth round: Laecool v Menchester

FA YOUTH CUP Fifth round; Luegood v Manchester Life (7.0). Rugby Union CLUB MATCHES: Bristol v Royal Navy (7.0); Gloucester v Army (7.0); Pontypool v Benry Hill (7.0). Other sports BOWLS: Bright Marks Championships (Auchin Lead); English Women's Indoor Championships (Southameter):

ice hockey Wayne Gretzly, playing his second game for the St Louis Blues, was knocked unconscious and helped from the ice on Sunday in the second

The height in feet of a bronze statue of the late Wolves and England captain, Billy Wright. which is to be erected outside the stand that bears his name at Molineux. The monument will cost £50.000.

3 850

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**FA probes** problem of tactical bookings

Football

PHIL SHAW

Aston Villa, and Ugo Ehiogu in particular, were last night sweating on the Football Association's reaction to the referee's report on Sunday's defeat at Liverpool. In the worst-case scenario, the England Under-21 defender could still miss the Coca-Cola Cup final through suspension.

Ehiogu assumed that the possibility of sitting out the Wembley date with Leeds on 24 March had disappeared with his caution for fouling Robbie Fowler. He believed the booking carried a four-point penalty, taking him through the 21-point threshold. That would have meant missing the visit of Middlesbrough on 19 March, but left him clear for the final.

However. Ehiogu learned vesterday that the referee, Keith Cooper, had cautioned him for "ungentlemanly conduct". It will be up to the FA's disciplinary commission to decide whether to impose a two or four-point penalty. If it is two, Ehiogu would be walking a disciplinary tightrope in the next two games.

Vılla's Savo Milosevic was booked at Anfield and misses Middlesbrough rather than Wembley. Andy Townsend incurred a similar caution against Blackburn which left him free to face Leeds. Tommy Johnson is one point away from sus-

The spate of cautions for players on the brink of a ban has prompted disquiet at the FA. which suspects some may be trying to guarantee their avail-

ability for certain games. The FA's Steve Double said: manipulation of the system, it is very hard to determine what is in a player's mind when he commits an offence. It's all a question of intent, and we would abhor any player who went out to seek a booking. But when an offence takes place, we can't ignore it.'

The FA also reiterated its holders will have free admission. supremo to be appointed and arrests and eight ejections.

fer system, despite the fact that fees for out-of-contract players who move between two countries were effectively abolished

said: "At the moment no one's challenging our system. We hope it remains that way because it's an excellent one, without which many smaller clubs might not survive." Transfers between clubs in the four home nations are unaffected: EU law regards them as a sin-

dealing. He paid £350,000 to make the York striker Paul Barnes his 52nd signing as Birmingham manager, Gary Bull

his £2.3m switch from Spurs. buy during the same summer. is set to rejoin Brondby in Den-

night's reserve game by giving Branco a run-out. The Brazilian international, whose first taste of English football was against Everton in the Premiership on Saturday, now lines up against Leicester City in the Pontins League Second Division match. Season ticket

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

in association with

The Bosman fall-out has not curtailed Barry Fry's wheeler-

joining York as part of the deal.

years if he chooses them ahead of Ipswich and Grimsby. Sunderland have signed the

John Jensen, a £1.1m Arsenal mark, also on a "free". Middlesbrough are expecting "While we're against deliberate a large gate for tomorrow

earlier in the day.

pean Union nations.

gle state.

West Bromwich Albion have agreed a £400,000 fee with Bolton for Richard Sneekes. The Dutch midfielder will be Albion's costlicst capture in 10

striker Paul Stewart on a free transfer, barely four years after

body in Europe, announced its acceptance of the ruling of the European Court of Justice in the wake of the Jean-Marc Bosman case, whereby the transfer system was no longer enforceable when players moved between the 15 Euro-

Liverpool and former England

Uefa, the game's governing

The FA's Clare Tomlinson

Hibernian to investigate Goram incident The Hibernian chairman, Douglas Cromb, yesterday launched an internal inquiry

Easter Road pitch on Sunday. A man appeared in court in Edinburgh vesterday, charged with assault and breach of the peace for the incident, which came during Rangers' 2-0 Scot-

tish League victory. Cromb was waiting for re-ports from the police and stewards who were on duty at Easter Road, while the Scottish Football Association is also to in-

vestigate the incident. However, the Labour MP Secretary of State for Scotland. has asked for an intelligence

accused the SFA of being "too complacent" about security.

The match was shown live into an incident in which a supon Scottish Television and folporter was alleged to have atlows an incident at Aberdeen tacked Andy Goram, the in January when the referee, Rangers goalkeeper, on the Michael McCurry, was hit by a coin which had been thrown from the stands.

'You are asking me how a fan was able to run on to the pitch and get to an opposition play-er and I want to know the same thing," the Hibernian Cromb. who described the in-

cident as "deplorable", denied there had been a lack of adequate policing at the match. As the Goram incident flared, there was a commotion John McFall, deputy shadow in another part of the ground and the police said after the

"We actually had more police on duty yesterday than is normal," Cromb insisted. "We had the full complement for a

Right on target: Juninho displays the scoring touch sorely missed by Middlesbrough as he nets his and Brazil's second goal in their 3-1 defeat of Uruguay in the Olymqualifying tournament. Their place in Atlanta assured, Brazil meet fellow qualifiers Argentina tomorrow, after which Juninho will return to Teesside

Photograph: Ret

Category A game, which is one against Celtic, Rangers or Hearts, and we had beefed up that total as well." Cromb was at a loss as to how else a club could prevent such an incident, although clearly erecting fences again is the

only obvious answer. Jim Farry, the chief executive of the SFA, confirmed that they will wait for the report from the match referee, Willie Young, before setting up an inquiry. "The management of any sport has to be concerned when something like this hap-

pens." Farry said. Rangers' Gordan Petric and title decider with Celtic at Ibrox have all played in that position on 17 March.

Both were booked at Hibernian on Sunday, but are still below the 10-point disciplinary threshold, which would incur three-match bans.

Richard Gough, the Rangers captain, will miss the match through injury and defender David Robertson will be starting a two-match suspension. Gough's comeback after a four-match absence lasted only 44 minutes before he left the pitch with a calf strain which will keep him out from four to

"Richard has had his calf put in plaster now until the end of the week," said Walter Smith, the Rangers manager. "It still looks like he will be out for a month at least. Alex Cleland.

at short notice, walked into the fifth Ashes Test and did himself proud with innings' of 72 and 42. That was supposed to be the

turning point of Ramprakash's

career - but he failed against

West Indies the following sum-

mer - and failed again in South

since we came out here and we

are perfectly happy to have him now." said Illingworth following speculation that Nasser Hussain

might have been a better bet. Fairbrother was last night

preparing to start his sad jour-

ney home. It is not only the end of his World Cup but, at 32 and

with a lengthening list of ham-

string injuries, it could be the end of his England career.

"Losing the last World Cup final was probably more disap-pointing, but this is bad," the

Lancashire left-hander said.

England are to tour Pakistan

from October to December in

the year 2000, in what will be

their first Test trip to the coun-

Richardson's day, page 23

try in 13 years.

"Mark has been on standby

Africa earlier this winter.

two options, but we will miss Gough's influence on the

Gordon Durie, Rangers' top

oalscorer, should resume train-

ing in a week or so, but it will be touch-and-go for the Celtic match on St Patrick's Day. Meanwhile, Ian Ferguson could be fit for Saturday's Scottish Cup quarter-final against

Thistle at Tannadice Park. -Alan Lawrence, the Hearts striker, is out of Thursday's cup quarter-final against First Division St Johnstone. Lawrence has been given an immediate one-match ban for an incident in a match against Rangers last October.

However, the committee Attilio Lombardo reinfo cleared to play in the Old Firm Craig Moore and John Brown have dropped the 12 penalty the midfield.

points against Law ence after hearing evidence from the Rangers defender Craig Moor who was caught by Lawrence elbow in the Ibrox match. Bo players gave evidence yesterd after Lawrence was granted second hearing through t SFA's appeals process.

The fuventus captain, Gia luca Vialli, will mess tom: row's European C quarter-final first leg at R Third Division Caledonian

Madrid, Vialli, who needed stitches after suffering gashed ankle in the Ita champions' 5-0 defeat of P va in Serie A on Saturday. be out for at least a week Turin side are expected to on their Italian internation Alessandro del Piero and

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# **Arrival of Ramprakash** good news for Stewart internationals since the start of man flew from India to Australia

January have brought an equal-

y poor return - just a single con-

and it fell before the seven-wick-

et defeat by Pakistan despite

speculation Stewart might re-

place Jack Russell behind the

stumps. With Robin Smith mak-

ing a success of opening the bat-

ting another door slammed

shut, but Fairbrother's injury has

created a gap in England's mid-

dle order for Stewart to fill at Faisalabad on Saturday.

Poorly though England have

played, both collectively and, in

the majority of cases, individu-ally so far. the chance remains

to make amends. As Illing-

worth said after the defeat by

Pakistan: "We haven't lost any

important games yet - the im-

portant ones are still to come."

hope of making an impact,

Illingworth's men must beat Sri

Lanka. Then, once acclima-

tised, he could be a semi-final

contender. Any opportunity is

better than none at all. Thirteen

For Ramprakash to have any

tribution in excess of 50. The axe has been hovering,

Cricket



the clearest indication vet that

Stewart's star is waning after six

years as a Test and one-day in-

He scored only one half-cen-

tury during the recent five-Test

series in South Africa, prompt-

ing Illingworth to exclude his

name from those who could feel

confident of their places this summer. Eight limited-overs

ternational regular.

While Ramprakash will only play in Saturday's quarter-final against Sri Lanka if more misfortune befalls England, Stewart suddenly has an opportunity to end his worrying winter on a high note. The decision to drop their vice-captain from Sun-day's match with Pakistan was

Busy temp has ven to be unoccupied (5)

Using words to describe meat-eating brother com-

17 Remove moisture round organ; it's boring (6) 18 Officer commanding security gets an indication of

19 Person in field event needs something to wear (6) 20 Practised part of Bible by

ing (5)

New Zealand in Lahore on Wednesday for second place in Group B, but win or lose the Pakistanis will have to play their quarter-final in India. If they win they could even end up playing against India in

outings, would like to complete the league section of the

Pakistan ready for Indian trip We are quite aware of their potential as we shared the oneday series last time in New Zealand," Akram said, "They are a good fighting side and we've got to play in the same way as we did against England." New Zealand and Pakistan

the southern city of Bangalore, but their captain. Wasim Akram, insists that does not

"It is an important match for tournament on a winning note us because it is going to deterbut do not underestimate New mine who finishes second and third and we must win to finish

second in the group," said the

**ACROSS** 18 Make too much of OD? (6)
21 Fail as a retailer supporting deception (9)
14 Pronunciation mark is said to change before being inserted (9) Dispatch worker takes cards to Queen (6)
4 Fat fellow associated with research place? (6)
10 Ring made to go on digits?

11 Cat in river is very black

12One doctor, right to demolish igloo, makes a mess 13 European holds party for

returning pet (6)
15 The French upset many a non-professional person 16 Potato left by King Lear?

23 Ideal for overworked chefs? (8.7)

24 Don't agree to one's being surrounded by all the others (6) 25 Dog eating one had

reached perfection (6) Vegetable one's to put at bottom of cooking vessel

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Reptilian quality which is deliberately shown (4-11)

Part of blood you elect to

Boil, then pipe this food Concern about one upward-growing plant (6) Phone place in Alabama

day (6) 22 Public relations unit is hy-

worry them one bit. We're not worried about going to India. The team is relaxed and confident," he said. Pakistan, beaten only by South Africa in their first four

are tied with six points each in Group B as they go into Wednesday's match. The New

action since they beat the United Arab Emirates by 109 runs in Faisalabad on 27 February but they are determined to give Pakistan a tough con-

New Zealand captain, Lee Germon. On Sunday they played a warm-up match against Lahore Gymkhana Club, winning by a convincing 185 runs with all the front line batsmen making useful scores.

Nathan Astle, whose form dropped off after a fine century Vednesday's match. The New Against England in the opening Zealanders have seen little Cup match in the western Indian city of Ahmedabad, regained his touch with a top score of 59. Like Pakistan, New Zealand

are set to play their quarter-final in Madras or Banglore depending on what happens on Wednesday. New Zealand have only one injury worry in medium pacer Gavin Larsen

with a strained calf muscle.

**Promises**